

INSTITUTE
FOR POLITICS
AND SOCIETY

Digital Czech Republic 2022



VII. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
May 12 - 13, Spojka Karlín, Prague

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Institute for Politics and Society

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

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

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DIGITAL CZECH REPUBLIC, MAY 12 - 13, 2022, PRAGUE

Organizer



Exclusive Partner of the Digital Czech Republic Policy Program 2022



Conference Partner



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The conference is held under the auspices of Vice-President of the European Parliament Dita Charanzová.

A stylized graphic of the Prague skyline, featuring the Charles Bridge and various church spires, rendered in shades of blue and purple. A network of white lines connects various points across the skyline, creating a digital or interconnected theme.

Digital Czech Republic in 2022

Dear guests,

I am honored to welcome you to our VII. year of the international conference: Digital Czech Republic.

Digitization has given the Czech Republic the opportunity to become one of the most developed countries in the world. The conference, which is traditionally organized every year by the Institute for Politics and Society, serves as a source to achieve this goal. We provide a platform for key figures such as politicians, academics, members of the private and public sectors, and government officials from within the Czech Republic and abroad. Quality of life has improved in the Czech Republic due to the vital conversations on digitization that have taken place at this conference over the years.

I would like to begin by taking note of the complexity of this period of time. As soon as Europe began to shake off the consequences caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, our lives were again drastically affected by the war in Ukraine. For obvious reasons, unprecedented Russian aggression is drawing attention to issues other than digitization. Nevertheless, it would be a mistake to neglect digitization even in these difficult times. The war in Ukraine shows, among other things, how crucial it is to have a secure cyberspace, the ability to process information, know how to refute misinformation, and to be proficient with communication platforms. As with any other crisis, this one can also be an opportunity, and this is especially valid in the area of digitization. For instance, attacks by Russian hackers can be an obstacle to effective eGovernment, which is one of the topics we will address during the conference.

INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine have both fully exposed the dangerous potential of creating and spreading disinformation. Many of the same individuals that used to spread so much misinformation about COVID-19 have now shifted their focus to lying about Ukraine. The influence of obscure alternative news sites and information is increasing, as it is easier and faster to spread due to social networks. The debate is also intensifying over whether or not to limit this information, and if so, to what extent. This also begs the question of who should do so, and according to what rules? The major question is whether space should be left for the spread of deliberately created lies and provocations, as they aim to deceive the target society, in our case the Czech Republic.

Bitcoin trading is constantly becoming more topical. What seemed to be up until recently science fiction, is a reality today. A significant part of the society, which was not previously interested in virtual currencies, nowadays trades with them and watches how their value is constantly increasing or decreasing. If there exists something that poses an extraordinary risk and at the same time an unprecedented opportunity, it is only the virtual currencies. For the future, there are massive plans for them, and it will be interesting to discover to what extent they will affect our lives.

Digital Czech Republic will provide a platform for sharing ideas and innovations, as well as personal experiences of individual participants. I am glad that after nearly two years of the pandemic, we can attend the conference physically again. I believe that we will be able to build on previously successful years, and the conference will be a pleasant experience for you.

On behalf of the Institute for Politics and Society, I hope you will enjoy the conference and I look forward to all the stimulating and interesting discussions.



Šárka Shoup

Executive Director
Institute for Politics and Society

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 12, 2022

10:00 - 10:05

Welcome Speech

Šárka Shoup

Executive Director, Institute for Politics and Society (Czech Republic)

10:05 - 10:30

Keynote Speakers

Svetlana Tsikhanouskaya

Belarusian Opposition Leader and Politician (Belarus)

Dita Charanzová

Vice-President and Member of Parliament, European Parliament, Renew Europe (Czech Republic)

Ivan Bartoš

Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister for Regional Development, Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Karel Havlíček

Vice-President, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

10:30 - 11:45

The Czech Republic on the Way From the Assembly Plant to the Brain Room

Ivan Bartoš

Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister for Regional Development, Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Karel Havlíček

Vice-President, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Vladimír Dlouhý

President, Chamber of Commerce of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Jan Švejnar

IDEA/CERGE-EI, Prague, CGEG, Columbia University, New York (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Ondřej Houska

Reporter, Hospodářské noviny (Czech Republic)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 12, 2022

11:45 - 12:45

Lunch

12:45 - 13:00

VIP Talk: Progress and New Challenges of eGovernment

Zdeněk Zajíček

Vice-President, Czech Chamber of Commerce (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Sara Polak

Artificial Intelligence Archaeologist, Paioneers (Czech Republic)

13:00 - 14:15

**Internet, Artificial Intelligence, Bitcoin...
and What Comes Next?**

Dita Charanzová

Vice-President and Member of Parliament, European Parliament,
Renew Europe (Czech Republic)

Vladimír Dzurilla

Director, National Agency for Communication and Information Technology
(Czech Republic)

Ondřej Vlček

CEO, Avast Software (Czech Republic)

Alžběta Krausová

Researcher, Department of Private Law, Institute of State and Law of the CAS
(Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Petr Očko

Deputy Minister for Digitization and Innovation, Ministry of Industry and Trade
of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

14:15 - 14:30

Coffee Break

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 12, 2022

14:30 - 15:45

Financial Technology of the Future

Ondřej Kovařík

Member, European Parliament, Renew Europe (Czech Republic)

Ott Velsberg

Government Chief Data Officer, Ministry of Economy and Communications (Estonia)

Greta Schulte

Secretary-General, European FinTech Association and Manager for Government and Public Affairs, N26 Digital Bank (Germany)

Jan Blažek

Chairman of the Board, Banking Identity (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Jana Brodani

Executive Director, Capital Market Association of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

15:45 - 17:00

Smart eMobility for the 21st Century

Marek Novák

Member of Parliament, Chairman of the Subcommittee on ICT, Telecommunications and Digital Economy, Chamber of Deputies (Czech Republic)

Nataša Obermann

Head of Online Customer Journey, ŠKODA AUTO (Czech Republic)

Pia Berglund

Global Director of Regulatory Affairs, Einride (Sweden)

Martin Russ

Managing Director, AustriaTech Ltd. (Austria)

Moderator:

Zdeněk Petzl

Executive Director, Automotive Industry Association (Czech Republic)

17:00 - 18:00

Networking

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 13, 2022

08:00 - 09:45

eCommerce, Where Is It Going and What Is It Building?

(INVITED ONLY)

Dita Charanzová

Vice-President and Member of Parliament, European Parliament, Renew Europe (Czech Republic)

František Štrupl

Head of Retail, Google (Czech Republic)

Oliver Dlouhý

CEO, Co-founder, Kiwi.com (Czech Republic)

Jitka Dvořáková

CEO, CZC.cz (Czech Republic)

Tomáš Braverman

CEO, Heureka Group (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Zdravko Krstanov

Editor in Chief, Forbes.cz (Czech Republic)

10:00 - 10:05

Welcome Speech

Ludvík

Robot, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague (Czech Republic)

10:05 - 10:30

Keynote Speakers

Dubravka Šuica

Vice-President of the European Commission for Democracy and Demography (Croatia)

Timmy Dooley

Senator, Vice-President-Designate of ALDE (Ireland)

Eva Pavlíková

Executive Director, Česko.Digital (Czech Republic)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 13, 2022

10:30 - 11:30

Democracy and the Digital Society 2.0

Timmy Dooley

Senator, Vice-President-Designate of ALDE (Ireland)

Michael O'Flaherty

Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (Ireland)

František Vrábel

Founder and Director, Semantic Visions (Czech Republic)

Tereza Bartoníčková

Scientist and Founder, Internet Institute (Czech Republic)

Marcus Ryder

Journalist and Lecturer, Birmingham City University (United Kingdom)

Moderator:

Roman Máca

Analyst, Institute for Politics and Society (Czech Republic)

11:30 - 11:55

VIP Talk: Digital Security in the Age of Cyber Wars

Karel Řehka

Director, National Cyber and Information Security Agency (Czech Republic)

Jeff Bullwinkel

Associate General Counsel and Regional Director of Corporate, Legal & External Affairs, Microsoft Europe (United States)

Moderator:

Sara Polak

Artificial Intelligence Archaeologist, Paioneers (Czech Republic)

11:55 - 12:45

Lunch

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 13, 2022

12:45 - 13:45

The Digital Age of Education

Ivo Vondrák

Governor, Moravian-Silesian Region, Member of Parliament, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Minna Kelh 

Director-General, Finnish National Agency for Education (Finland)

Vojt ch Petr  ek

Rector, Czech Technical University in Prague (Czech Republic)

Barbora B hnov 

Co-founder, Czechitas; Vice-Dean, Masaryk University (Czech Republic)

Petr Jon k

Member of the Board of Directors, Confederation of Industry and Transport (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Bohumil Kartous

Director, Prague Innovation Institute (Czech Republic)

13:45 - 14:45

eHealth

Tanel Kiik

Minister of Health and Labour, Government of the Republic of Estonia (Estonia)

Morten Elb ek Petersen

Director, Sundhed.dk (Denmark)

Martin Zeman

Director of IT and Computerization of Health, Ministry of Health (Czech Republic)

Veronika Oudov 

Ambassador, European Innovation Council (Czech Republic)

Ji  i Pecina

1st Vice-Chairman, Alliance for Telemedicine, Digitization of Health and Social Services (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Tom    Dole  al

Director, Institute for Health Economics, Co-founder, Medevio (Czech Republic)

14:45 - 15:00

Closing Ceremony

PANEL

May 12, 10:30 – 11:45

The Czech Republic on the Way From the Assembly Plant to the Brain Room

The digital transformation of the economy represents an opportunity to move the Czech Republic among the most developed countries in the world. However, its successful achievement is conditional not only on close and intensive cooperation between the public and private sectors, but also on significant investment in research, development and innovation.

The Czech Republic has a long-term vision, The Country For the Future, which aims to open up the country to innovative ideas and unleash the full potential of robotics, automation and other trends based on Industry 4.0. This strategy presents a roadmap for transforming the domestic economy from an assembly plant based on cheap labor to a think tank creating high value-added products and services.

The global Coronavirus pandemic has fully exposed the weaknesses of the Czech economy. In addition, the working environment is also being transformed. Home office has gone from a welcome benefit to a practically normal standard in professions that allow it. At the same time, questions have arisen as to what the offices of the future should look like or how to ensure suitable working conditions for working from home. We could find many similar examples.

What is the state of Czech science and research? What are the obstacles to faster development of the digital economy? Can the Czech economy afford to automate its production capacities more significantly? What has the Coronavirus pandemic revealed? Will working from home become a fixed part of our working life? In what direction is the working environment changing? And will we see a four-day work week?

ŘEČNÍCI



Ivan Bartoš

Czech Republic

Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister for Regional Development, Government of the Czech Republic



Karel Havlíček

Czech Republic

Vice-President, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic



Vladimír Dlouhý

Czech Republic

President, Chamber of Commerce of the Czech Republic



Jan Švejnar

Czech Republic

IDEA/CERGE-EI, Prague, CGEG, Columbia University, New York

MODERATOR:



Ondřej Houska

Czech Republic

Reporter, Hospodářské noviny

VIP TALK

May 12, 12:45 – 13:00

Progress and New Challenges of eGovernment

Digitization of public administration has long been one of the government's top priorities. It is no exaggeration to say that 2022 is the year of eGovernment and significant changes. In practice, for example, the Act on the Right to Digital Services or the Law nicknamed DEPO, which amends over 160 pieces of legislation in connection with the further computerization of the procedures of public authorities, will come into operation. The package of changes deepens the computerization of public administration in the Czech Republic.

The Act on the Right to Digital Services includes, for example, the introduction of mandatory receipt of postal data messages by legal and entrepreneurial natural persons or provides for the possibility of driving a car without the need to carry a physical driving licence. Gradually, other digital rights from the so-called digital constitution will also come into force. Examples include the legalisation of an electronic signature, the right to use data or the right to certify a digital act.

It seems that in the coming years we could also see the end of identification by means of a personal identification number. It is to be replaced by the concept of electronic identification based on the principle of decentralized identity without an intermediary in the form of the so-called national point (NIA). In addition, in 2023, a provision will come into effect that obliges every entrepreneurial legal and natural person to set up a data box.

Is the Czech Republic finally really „digital”? Will we see a situation where, following the example of Estonia, we will have to physically go to the office only in exceptional cases? What other news awaits us this year? And will the Citizen's Portal become a real center of communication between the state and the citizens?

SPEAKERS



Zdeněk Zajíček

Czech Republic

Vice-President, Czech Chamber of Commerce

MODERATOR:



Sara Polak

Czech Republic

Artificial Intelligence
Archaeologist, Paioneers

PANEL

May 12, 13:00 – 14:15

Internet, Artificial Intelligence, Bitcoin... and What Comes Next?

The Internet is undoubtedly one of the most important inventions in the history of mankind and has a significant influence on the shape of the contemporary world. For many, therefore, it is an inseparable part of our lives. We use it for work, education and communication. But it is also a place where we spend our free time or look for fun. In connection with the internet, however, there is increasing talk about the use of user data.

So-called big data has not only a positive, but also its dark side. Companies are collecting more and more information about us. In particular, this concerns data about what we do on the Internet and how we behave. They obtain data from social networks, website visits, login logs or from our activity on phones. They then use the data to analyse behaviour and anticipate needs, which allows them to improve the personalisation of messages and, in turn, influence the behaviour of civil society.

However, the potential of big data is much broader than it may seem at first glance. Their use can be beneficial in solving problems occurring, for example, in medicine, unemployment, crime or security. In addition, they are also used by companies in combination with artificial intelligence algorithms to automate processes that save time and resources, and ultimately lead to greater economic competitiveness.

Is our data modern gold? Have we fully exploited the potential of big data? What is the future of artificial intelligence? Can Czech companies work with data? Is there a need for better regulation of data collection?

SPEAKERS



Dita Charanzová

Czech Republic

Vice-President and Member of Parliament, European Parliament, Renew Europe



Vladimír Dzurilla

Czech Republic

Director, National Agency for Communication and Information Technology



Ondřej Vlček

Czech Republic

CEO, Avast Software



Alžběta Krausová

Czech Republic

Researcher, Department of Private Law, Institute of State and Law of the CAS

MODERATOR:



Petr Očko

Czech Republic

Deputy Minister for Digitization and Innovation, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

PANEL

May 12, 14:30 – 15:45

Financial Technology of the Future

Not long ago sci-fi, today reality. Few sectors are developing as dynamically as financial services. Who among us, for example, could have imagined just a few years ago that we would pay for our purchases using a watch or a mobile phone, all secured with biometric data?

FinTech is becoming increasingly popular due to its simplicity and high level of security, and it is no wonder that it covers an increasingly diverse range of services. They make them available to us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. In addition, we are not tied to a place, and thanks to security features such as artificial intelligence, biometric data or algorithms that warn of suspicious behavior, we can use them from virtually anywhere in the world without their misuse.

Digital technologies are also becoming an inspiration in building eGovernment. An example is the Banking Identity project, through which citizens can communicate electronically with the authorities and use various services simply thanks to identification by logging into their internet banking. But FinTech also brings obstacles. For example, cashless payments are very popular with Czechs, which to some extent causes us to become dependent on payment companies.

Will we see the introduction of a digital currency? Can the identity of citizens be stolen? And what new technologies have a perspective from the point of view of the state?

SPEAKERS



Ondřej Kovařík

Czech Republic
Member, European Parliament,
Renew Europe



Ott Velsberg

Estonia
Government Chief Data
Officer, Ministry of Economy
and Communications



Greta Schulte

Germany
Secretary-General, European
FinTech Association and
Manager for Government and
Public Affairs, N26 Digital Bank



Jan Blažek

Czech Republic
Chairman of the Board,
Banking Identity

MODERATOR:



Jana Brodani

Czech Republic
Executive Director, Capital
Market Association of the
Czech Republic

PANEL

May 12, 15:45 – 17:00

Smart eMobility for the 21st Century

Not only fast and reliable, but also smart, environmentally friendly, affordable or multimodal. This is only a fraction of the attributes that are increasingly associated with modern transport of the 21st century. In short, transport is increasingly demanded from all directions.

The European Union has set itself an ambitious target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 60% in 2050 compared to 1990 levels. In this context, the Czech Republic faces a number of challenges. It wants to achieve this goal by promoting electromobility, shifting freight transport from roads to railways and waterways, building a motorway and high-speed rail network.

Digitalisation is one of the tools to achieve this. From the digitization agenda, the Ministry of Transport has already managed to introduce projects such as a single ticket, an electronic vignette, a new electronic toll system, the status of the point account on the Citizen's Portal, the mileage online, a digitized photo when applying for a driver's license, a drone register or registration for tests of safety advisors for the transport of dangerous substances and other things.

What other digital projects in the field of transport is the state preparing? Is the Czech Republic ready for electromobility? Will we see a more pronounced use of hydrogen propulsion? When will the motorway network and high-speed rail be fully completed? And when will we finally see real „smart cities“?

SPEAKERS



Marek Novák

Czech Republic

Member of Parliament,
Chairman of the Subcommittee
on ICT, Telecommunications
and Digital Economy, Chamber
of Deputies



Nataša Obermann

Czech Republic

Head of Online Customer
Journey, ŠKODA AUTO



Pia Berglund

Sweden

Global Director of Regulatory
Affairs, Einride



Martin Russ

Austria

Managing Director, AustriaTech
Ltd.



Zdeněk Petzl

Czech Republic

Executive Director, Automotive
Industry Association

MODERATOR:

BUSSINESS BREAKFAST

Additional program of the Digital Czech 2022 conference

May 13, 8:00 – 9:45

eCommerce, Where is it Going and What is it Building? (INVITED ONLY)

The numbers speak clearly, the Czech Republic is one of the great powers in the field of eCommerce. For example, in per capita terms, we boast one of the highest number of e-shops in Europe. In addition, the number is growing year by year, as well as the turnover of the entire segment. Czech „flagships“, such as the online supermarket Rohlik.cz, the search engine for cheap Kiwi.com tickets, the online store Alza.cz or delivery services Zásilkovna.cz have been operating far beyond the Czech border for a long time and there is no indication that the Czech expansion is approaching its peak.

The field of eCommerce is very specific. It is a highly competitive and dynamically evolving environment. Customers are placing higher demands on the quality of deliveries, reliability of services, shorter delivery times, and greater flexibility of carriers. Continuous improvement in these areas is a permanent challenge for every company. And in the Coronavirus era, this was amplified. It's neither news nor a surprise that Covid's actions have ultimately driven eCommerce to faster growth and record results.

Where is Czech eCommerce going and what is it building towards? What changes can we expect in the coming years? What are the challenges it faces and, conversely, what are its biggest advantages? How does the Czech Republic compare to other European countries? What hinders young entrepreneurs from developing their projects? How can the EU support the development of startups?

SPEAKERS



Dita Charanzová

Czech Republic

Vice-President and Member
of Parliament, European
Parliament, Renew Europe



František Štrupl

Czech Republic

Head of Retail, Google



Oliver Dlouhý

Czech Republic

CEO, Co-founder, Kiwi.com



Jitka Dvořáková

Czech Republic

CEO, CZC.cz



Tomáš Braverman

Czech Republic

CEO, Heureka Group

MODERATOR:



Zdravko Krstanov

Czech Republic

Editor in Chief, Forbes.cz

PANEL

May 13, 10:30 – 11:30

Democracy and the Digital Society 2.0

Liberal democracy has not had the best of years in recent years. Governments around the world are facing hybrid attacks and populists. The influence of so-called alternative news sites and information is growing, which is spread more easily than ever before thanks to various social networks. Residents are more likely to face misinformation, conspiracy theories or manipulative techniques. Thus, to distinguish reality from untruth becomes increasingly difficult. With a certain degree of exaggeration, we can say that democratic principles are shaking to their very foundations as a result of hybrid attacks, and the increasingly frequent demonstrations not only throughout Europe, but also in the United States, for example, are clear proof of this.

It is absolutely clear that the European Union must actively address these current challenges and establish rules that eliminate hybrid threats. The European Plan for the Defence of Democracy is in charge of the Czech EU Commissioner Věra Jourová. In the fight against threats in cyberspace, it should help in addition to the so-called „cyber threats“. The Digital Services Act also includes the long-awaited Democracy Action Plan. Although this document is not legally binding in itself, it outlines the direction that the European Union should take in the coming months in the area of protecting democratic principles and processes.

How are societies and democratic processes changing under the influence of social networks? How should the originators of disinformation be dealt with, whether they are state or non-state actors? And what will the relationship between public institutions and Internet giants, who often pursue different interests, look like in the future?

SPEAKERS



Timmy Dooley

Ireland

Senator, Vice-President-Designate of ALDE



Michael O'Flaherty

Ireland

Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights



František Vrábel

Czech Republic

Founder and Director, Semantic Visions



Tereza Bartoníčková

Czech Republic

Scientist and Founder, Internet Institute



Marcus Ryder

United Kingdom

Journalist and Lecturer, Birmingham City University

MODERATOR:



Roman Máca

Czech Republic

Analyst, Institute for Politics and Society

VIP TALK

May 13, 11:30 – 11:45

Digital Security in the Age of Cyber Wars

Internet, cloud solutions, 5G, video conferencing, artificial intelligence, social networks or virtual environments. A brief list of technologies that are playing an increasingly important role in our lives. The digitization of society and the economy has increased drastically during the coronavirus pandemic, and IT solutions are now an absolute prerequisite for keeping a variety of activities running.

The dependence on technology has never been greater, and cyber attackers are aware of this. The rapid development of digital products and services faces new security challenges that need to be uncovered and addressed around the world. Hacking attacks are becoming increasingly sophisticated, and there is a shift from targeted attacks to new forms of massive threats to millions of businesses and citizens.

If we want to successfully respond to today's security challenges, we cannot do without cooperation at international level. Through the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA), the EU takes action to address cybersecurity challenges, promotes cyber diplomacy, strengthens cyber defence, supports research and innovation, and protects critical infrastructure.

What impact has the coronavirus pandemic had on cybersecurity? What are the European Council conclusions on the EU Cybersecurity Strategy for the Digital Decade? Is it possible to achieve strategic autonomy regarding cybersecurity while maintaining an open economy? How does the Czech Republic compare to other Member States in this area?

SPEAKERS



Karel Řehka

Czech Republic

Director, National Cyber and
Information Security Agency



Jeff Bullwinkel

United States

Associate General Counsel and
Regional Director of Corporate,
Legal & External Affairs,
Microsoft Europe

MODERATOR:



Sara Polak

Czech Republic

Artificial Intelligence
Archaeologist, Paioneers

PANEL

May 13, 12:45 – 13:45

The Digital Age of Education

Few areas have experienced such a „revolution“ since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic as education. The pandemic has revealed a number of challenges to education and training systems related to institutions' digital capacities, teacher education, and overall levels of digital skills and competences.

The European Union has therefore renewed a policy initiative to promote a sustainable and effective adaptation of Member States' education and training systems to the digital age – the Digital Education Action Plan (2021-2027). It is a long-term strategic vision for high-quality, inclusive, and accessible European digital education.

The Digital Education Plan builds on the challenges and opportunities of the coronavirus pandemic and seeks closer cooperation between the European Union in the field of digital education. Promoting the digitalisation of teaching methods and pedagogy, together with providing the infrastructure needed for effective distance learning, aims to improve the quality and quantity of distance learning.

Which states have best adapted to forced changes in teaching and in what way? Conversely, which ones had a problem with distance learning? What is the potential of remote learning? How will the Digital Education Action Plan affect education in the Czech Republic? Will the digitization of the education system affect the students themselves? What is the future of education in the EU?

SPEAKERS



Ivo Vondrák

Czech Republic

Governor, Moravian-Silesian Region, Member of Parliament, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic



Minna Kelh 

Finland

Director-General, Finnish National Agency for Education



Vojt ch Petr  ek

Czech Republic

Rector, Czech Technical University in Prague



Barbora B hnov 

Czech Republic

Co-founder, Czechitas; Vice-Dean, Masaryk University



Petr Jon k

Czech Republic

Member of the Board of Directors, Confederation of Industry and Transport

MODERATOR:



Bohumil Kartous

Czech Republic

Director, Prague Innovation Institute

PANEL

May 13, 13:45 – 14:45

eHealth

The healthcare sector has been undergoing a fundamental transformation around the world in recent years and the health system is improving. The main benefits of digitising healthcare include improving prevention, diagnosis, treatment or monitoring of patients' healthcare and lifestyle. In addition, information is shared more effectively between physicians, medical procedures are shared, and communication is improved, which increases the overall quality of care.

In the Czech Republic, the Act on the Computerization of Healthcare was adopted in 2021, on the basis of which the eHealth Portal is to be established from 2023. Patients and doctors will find an offer of eHealth services along with a web and mobile application. Importantly, the law does not introduce any centralized repository of medical records or data on the patient's health, but allows the safe transfer of medical documentation or its parts between health service providers or between the provider and the health insurance company.

In connection with the coronavirus pandemic, the so-called telemedicine is also gaining in importance. This allows patients to consult their health with doctors online without having to leave their home, making the healthcare system much more efficient. Inspiration can be drawn from countries such as Denmark, Spain or the United Kingdom, which are setting trends in the field of eHealth.

What are the barriers to the development of digital health? What impact has the COVID-19 pandemic had on eHealth? What are the prospects for digital healthcare in the future in the Czech Republic? How can the European Union support the development of digital health? So what is hindering the development of eHealth and the expected financial savings in healthcare?

SPEAKERS



Tanel Kiik

Estonia

Minister of Health and Labour,
Government of the Republic
of Estonia



Morten Elbæk Petersen

Denmark

Director, Sundhed.dk



Martin Zeman

Czech Republic

Director of IT and
Computerization of Health,
Ministry of Health



Veronika Oudová

Czech Republic

Ambassador, European
Innovation Council



Jiří Pecina

Czech Republic

1st Vice-Chairman, Alliance
for Telemedicine, Digitization
of Health and Social Services

MODERATOR:



Tomáš Doležal

Czech Republic

Director, Institute for Health
Economics, Co-founder, Medevio

KEYNOTES



Ivan Bartoš

CZECH REPUBLIC

Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister for Regional Development, Government of the Czech Republic

Ivan Bartoš is a long-time chairman of the Czech Pirate Party, he was already at its inception in 2009. Since autumn 2017 he has been a member of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, this mandate he defended in 2021. For four years he held the position of Chairman of the Committee on Public Administration and Regional Development in the Chamber of Deputies, in addition to this area he also dealt with the issue of digitization. Ivan Bartoš was born in Jablonec nad Nisou, North Bohemia. At the age of seventeen, he went to study in the United States of America, where he successfully graduated. Subsequently, he also passed the Czech school-leaving examination in his hometown at the U Balvanu Grammar School. He has worked professionally in several Czech and multinational companies in the field of information technology, for example for Newton IT, Monster Worldwide, T-Mobile and started the Job Portal Air Jobs. He is married and has two children. He is fluent in English, French and Russian.



Timmy Dooley

IRELAND

Senator, Vice-President-designate of ALDE

Senator Timmy Dooley was appointed to the 26th Session of the Seanad in 2020 and is Fianna Fáil Seanadu's current spokesperson for climate, communications networks, and transport. He was Technical Director from 2007 to 2020 and served as Spokesperson for Transport, Tourism, and Sport until 2016 when he moved into climate action and communications. Timmy was also in Seanad from 2002 to 2007, when he was elected to the administrative body. In addition to his role in national politics, Timmy is very active in the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) and is currently the acting co-chairman of the party.

KEYNOTES



Karel Havlíček

CZECH REPUBLIC

Vice-President, Chamber of Deputies
of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

Karel Havlíček graduated from the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Czech Technical University, as well as PIBS at Manchester Metropolitan University, and completed his doctoral studies at the Faculty of Business Administration of the University of Economics in Prague. He has sat in a number of advisory bodies of the government and ministries, since 2014 he has been a member of the Government Council for Research, Development and Innovation and since 2018 he has been its deputy chairman. In April 2019, he was nominated by the Prime Minister for the position of Deputy Prime Minister for the Economy and at the same time for the post of Minister of Industry and Trade. He was appointed to both positions by the President of the Republic on 30 April 2019. On 24 January 2020, Karel Havlíček also became Minister of Transport. He retired from both ministerial positions on 17 December 2022 and was elected Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic on 18 February 2022.



Dita Charanzová

CZECH REPUBLIC

Vice-President, European Parliament,
Renew Europe

Dita Charanzová studied at the University of Economics in Prague and later at the Academy of Diplomacy in Madrid. In 2001 she successfully defended her dissertation at the Faculty of International Relations, the University of Economics (VŠE) in Prague. She has worked as a diplomat, a manager, a consultant, and a high government official for EU-related issues. She was first elected as an MEP in 2014, and five years later she was the head of the ANO candidate list when she was re-elected. She continues with her work in the Committee for the Internal Market, focusing on the digital market and supporting Czech business in internal as well as in third markets. She has been repeatedly listed as one of the most influential women in Brussels.

KEYNOTES



Eva Pavlíková

CZECH REPUBLIC

Executive Director, Czech Republic.Digital

Eva Pavlíková is the co-founder and director of the Czech Republic.Digital, a community of expert volunteers that has implemented dozens of technical projects since its inception in 2019. For the past 20 years, she has worked as a project manager in telecommunications and retail. As a visionary and strategist, she strives to incorporate collaboration and innovation into all her projects to help change in addition to achieving her goals. Currently, Eva actively manages digital government projects. Last but not least, she is the mother of two cute boys who like to listen to classical music and practice yoga.



Dubravka Šuica

CROATIA

Vice-President of the European Commission for Democracy and Demography

Since December 2019, Dubravka Šuica is Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Democracy and Demography. Mrs. Šuica is a Croatian politician from the city of Dubrovnik, where she served for two terms as its first female mayor and was awarded the 2006 World Mayor Award. Dubravka Šuica entered politics in the 1990s as a Member of the Croatian Democratic Union and served as a Member of the Croatian Parliament and Vice-Chair of the EU Integration Committee. Between 2004 and 2009 she was a Board Member of the Union of the Association of Towns and Municipalities of the Republic of Croatia. For ten years she was the Vice-President of Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. From 2013 to 2019 Dubravka Šuica served as a Member of the European Parliament and Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee. In June 2019, Šuica was elected as the first Vice-Chair of EPP Group in the European Parliament. Since 2012, she has been the Vice-President of EPP Women.

KEYNOTES



Svetlana Tsikhanouskaya

BĚLORUSKO

Lídryně běloruské opozice a politička

Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya is the leader of the Belarusian democratic forces, which, according to independent observers, defeated autocratic President Alexander Lukashenko in the August 9, 2020 presidential election. She entered the race after her husband was arrested for his presidential ambitions. Lukashenko publicly dismissed her as a “housewife” and declared that a woman could not become president. Tsikhanouskaya united the Belarusian democratic forces along with two other leaders - Maria Kalesnikova and Veronika Capkalova. After her forced exile, Tsikhanouskaya inspired unprecedented peaceful protests across Belarus, some of them numbering hundreds of thousands. She visited more than 20 countries, where she collected support for a free Belarus. In 2020, Lithuanian President Nausėda and Norwegian parliamentarians nominated her for the Nobel Peace Prize. She is ranked in the TOP 50 most influential personalities according to Bloomberg, the 12 most influential women according to the Financial Times and the 28 most influential Europeans according to POLITICO.

PANELISTS



Tereza Bartoníčková

CZECH REPUBLIC

Scientist and Founder, Internet Institute

Tereza is our president in terms of macro and micro. She founded the Internet Institute in 2018 and although she may boast the title of president, she certainly does not catch the mannerisms of the nobility. Tereza started her studies in marketing and PR at the Faculty of Social Sciences of Charles University and then headed to the Oxford Internet Institute, where she obtained an MSc. in Social Science of the Internet. Her expertise lies in the ethical-legal impacts of AI and technology regulation. In this area, she is currently working on her PhD. at the Faculty of Law of Charles University. Tereza gained work experience through smaller companies and freelancing, but also with giants such as Google.



Pia Berglund

SWEDEN

Director of Regulatory Affairs, Einride

Einride is a Swedish technology company that develops and provides freight mobility solutions based on electric and autonomous vehicles, leading the transition to sustainable transport and providing its services in Europe as well as in the US. Pia Berglund is a lawyer and has a long career within the maritime field in governmental functions, working within the EU sphere as well as heading the Swedish Shipowners' Association. Logistics and transport have been part of her career for over thirty years. In her role as Director of Regulatory Affairs at Einride, she will work to ensure that the policy perspective supports the transformation to a connected, electrified, and autonomous transport sector.

PANELISTS



Jan Blažek

CZECH REPUBLIC

Chairman of the Board of Directors
of Bankovní identita, a.s.

Jan Blažek stood for the creation of a banking identity in the Czech Republic from the very beginning. A graduate of the University of Economics, he has been working in the field of IT and project management for 18 years, starting as a process manager at ExxonMobil, then working at Accenture as a project manager for IT projects in finance and telco. Since 2014, he has been responsible for projects related to client identification and authentication at ČSOB and, as a program manager, has been working on an identity solution for the ČSOB Group. His responsibility also included co-participation in the preparation of the largest digital project of the Czech banking market, which is banking identity. Therefore, he was also involved in the establishment of the company Bankovní identita, a.s., which connects companies and institutions with banks and allows users to access the services of companies and institutions online.



Tomáš Braverman

CZECH REPUBLIC

CEO, Heureka Group

Tomáš has been the CEO of Heureka since 2013. His role was extended to CEO of the entire Heureka Group in 2019. Tomáš oversees the strategic development and smooth operation in all nine countries of Heureka Group. His main goal is to develop the Group's strategy to help strengthen its current position as the largest e-commerce platform in CEE markets. He enjoys spending time with his family, cooking, and doing sports.

PANELISTS



Barbora Buhnová

CZECH REPUBLIC

Co-founder of Czechitas; Vice-Dean,
Masaryk University

Barbora Buhnová is an Associate Professor and Vice-Dean at Masaryk University (MU), Faculty of Informatics (FI MU) in Brno. Following her research stays in Germany and Australia, she now leads multiple research teams at the Faculty of Informatics MU (software architecture) and Czech CyberCrime Centre of Excellence C4e (critical infrastructures). She is the chair of the Association of Industrial Partners at FI MU (with 30 companies) and stands behind numerous courses reflecting modern technologies that she introduced at FI MU. Next to her academic activities, she is passionate about tech education among the general public, being a Co-Founding and Governing Board member of Czechitas, a non-profit organisation aiming at making IT skills more accessible to youth and women (with 30,000+ graduates). She is a member of multiple initiatives engaging more women in tech (e.g. Informatics Europe working group Women in Informatics Research and Education (WIRE), EUGAIN: European Network for Gender Balance in Informatics) reaching across the entire continent of Europe. Within EUGAIN, which involves 38 European countries to share best practices on the topic, she is the Vice-Chair of the whole network.



Jeff Bullwinkel

UNITED STATES

Associate General Counsel and Regional
Director of Corporate, Legal & External
Affairs, Microsoft Europe

Jeff Bullwinkel serves as Microsoft's Associate General Counsel and Regional Director of Corporate, External & Legal Affairs for Europe. He is based in Amsterdam and oversees the company's legal and corporate affairs teams across the region, providing support for commercial transactions and regulatory counsel on public policy issues such as IPR, cybersecurity, competition, and international trade. Mr. Bullwinkel joined Microsoft in 2000 and previously held a number of senior roles with the company across the Asia Pacific region, based in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Sydney. Prior to joining Microsoft, Mr. Bullwinkel was with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, an international law firm based in New York. Mr. Bullwinkel also served as a federal prosecutor with the Office of International Affairs, Criminal Division, US Department of Justice, where he was responsible for a wide range of matters relating to international law. Mr. Bullwinkel is originally from the New York area. He graduated from Duke University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and received his law degree from New York University. He is a member of the New York State Bar.

PANELISTS



Vladimír Dlouhý

CZECH REPUBLIC

President, Czech Chamber of Commerce

Vladimír Dlouhý studied mathematical economics and econometrics at the School of Economics in Prague, later MBA at Catholic University in Leuven (Belgium) and post-graduate studies in mathematical statistics and probability at Charles University. In 1989, he was invited by Václav Havel to join the first post-communist government and till 1992, served as Minister of Economy of Czechoslovakia. After the split of the country, he served as Minister of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic in the Government of Prime Minister Klaus. Simultaneously, he was a member of the Parliament and vice-chairman of the Civic Democratic Alliance, a party forming governing coalition. Currently, he is a member of the Advisory Board, Meridiam Infrastructure, Paris. In 2014, he was elected President of the Czech Chamber of Commerce. From January 2015 to December 2019, he was Chairman of the Czech chapter of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), in November 2019 he became vice-president of Eurochambres. From 2009 to 2016, he was vice-chairman of the European Group of Trilateral Commission.



Oliver Dlouhý

CZECH REPUBLIC

Director-General; Co-founder, Kiwi.com

Oliver Dlouhý is the CEO and co-founder of a leading travel-tech company, Kiwi.com, headquartered in the Czech Republic. In 2012 Oliver had the bright idea to create a unique Virtual Interlining algorithm to find flight combinations that couldn't be found elsewhere. Fifty million searches are now carried out every day on Kiwi.com's website and over 25,000 seats are sold daily. Dlouhý was named as one of Forbes' European "30 Under 30" in 2018, became the Person of the Year by the Czech Awards "Křišťálová Lupa" in 2019, and was also awarded the "Entrepreneur of the Year" in 2019.

PANELISTS



Jitka Dvořáková

CZECH REPUBLIC

Director-General, CZC.cz

Jitka Dvořáková has held senior management positions for Panasonic and Philips, whereas the General Manager for Central and Eastern Europe, she became the first woman in European management. Since 2010 she has been working in e-commerce, first as the sales director of Net Retail Holding, which operates e-shops under the Mall brand in the Central European region, and since 2013 as the General Manager of CZC.cz. As part of the Mall Group, she also managed the Mall South region in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 2019 to 2021.



Vladimír Dzurilla

CZECH REPUBLIC

Director, National Agency for
Communication and Information
Technology

Vladimír Dzurilla graduated from the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, he also studied as an exchange student in the Netherlands and at the British Open University. After completing his studies, he worked at Accenture, where he started his career as a consultant for projects to exchange and implement large IT systems and to implement organizational and process changes in companies. These topics are still of interest for him. His main areas of interest are transformation projects in the telecommunications, finance, and government sectors. He also serves as an adviser to the General Financial Directorate and the Ministry of Finance. In the years 2016 to 2021 he was serving as a Chief Executive Officer for the State Treasury of the Shared Services Center, whose main task is the provision of ICT services to the state administration. He now serves as an advisor to the Prime Minister and IT agent in the current government.

PANELISTS



Petr Jonák

CZECH REPUBLIC

Member of the Board of Directors,
Confederation of Industry and Transport

Petr Jonák is the Corporate Affairs and Sustainability Director at T-Mobile. Since 2015, he has also been a member of the Board of Directors of the Confederation of Industry and Transport, the largest employer representative in the Czech Republic. He is a member of the Government Council for Sustainable Development. He graduated from the University of Economics in Prague and completed the leadership programme at IMD Business School. For five years he worked as a journalist for the Czech News Agency in Prague and as a correspondent in Brussels. Subsequently, he worked for Škoda Auto, the financial group BXR, and Coca-Cola. He participated in the Czech Republic's competitiveness strategies and was a member of the National Economic Council of the Government.



Minna Kelhä

FINLAND

Director-General, Finnish National Agency
for Education

Ms Mina Kelhä, Ph.D., Director General at the Finnish National Agency for Education. Previously, Dr. Kelhä has served as State Secretary to the Finnish Minister of Education, Mr. Jussi Saramo, Secretary General of the Left Alliance Parliamentary Group, Development Manager at the National Institute for Health and Welfare's Centre for Gender Equality Information, and researcher at the University of Helsinki.

PANELISTS



Tanel Kiik

ESTONIA

Minister of Health and Labour,
Government of the Republic of Estonia

Tanel Kiik is the Minister of Health and Labour of the Republic of Estonia after taking office on 26 January 2021. He is a member of the Estonian Centre Party. Tanel Kiik was born on 23 January 1989 in Tallinn. He is married and a father of one daughter. Minister Kiik has been a member of the Estonian Abstinence Association as of 2007. From 2007 to 2009 he was an information specialist of the Estonian Centre Party and later from 2010 to 2012 an associate of RE/MAX Professionals in real estate sales. He then became an advisor to the Deputy Speaker of the Estonian Parliament Riigikogu, where he served from 2012 to 2016. From 2016 to 2019 he was Head of the Prime Minister's Office and from 2019 to 2021 he was Minister of Social Affairs. Tanel Kiik graduated from the Pärnu College of Tartu University in entrepreneurship and project management in 2016 (cum laude). He is currently studying for an M.A. degree at the Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies, University of Tartu.



Ondřej Kovařík

CZECH REPUBLIC

Member, European Parliament, Renew
Europe

Ondřej studied international trade, international politics, and diplomacy at the University of Economics in Prague and later completed an international program in public administration, regional development, and EU programmes at the prestigious school for civil servants, the École nationale d'administration (ENA), in Strasbourg and Paris. His career to date has been dedicated to public service, primarily in various roles within the Czech civil service, but also in European public administration, where he worked in the European Parliament. Specifically, he has worked at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Office of the Government, the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Ottawa, the Czech Ministry of Defence, and the European Parliament. In 2019 he was elected as a Member of the European Parliament by the people of the Czech Republic. He is a member of several parliamentary committees, where he focuses primarily on EU economic and monetary policies with a focus on SMEs, digital finance, tourism, transport as well as the use and development of new technologies such as artificial intelligence.

PANELISTS



Alžběta Krausová

CZECH REPUBLIC

Researcher, Department of Private Law,
Institute of State and Law of the CAS

Dr. Alžběta Krausová is a researcher at the Institute of State and Law of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, chairwoman of the expert platform and forum of the Czech Republic for monitoring legal and ethical rules for artificial intelligence, founder and chairwoman of the SOLAIR conference (Society, Law, Artificial Intelligence and Robotics), external lecturer at Charles University and executive editor of The Lawyerly. She worked as a member of the Expert Group on Responsibility and New Technologies for the European Commission, a member of the ONE AI expert network at the OECD, and an expert for the Czech Republic in negotiating a draft recommendation on the ethics of artificial intelligence UNESCO. In February 2022, she became a member of the working group on Data Governance in GPAI. In her research, she specializes in the legal aspects of artificial intelligence, robotics, brain-computer interfaces, and linking technologies with biological life.



Ludvík

CZECH REPUBLIC

Robot, Faculty of Electrical Engineering,
Czech Technical University in Prague

Ludvík is a 140 cm tall robot that was built at the Department of Control Engineering of the Czech Technical University by Martin Šrámek and Matěj Štětka under the leadership of Martin Hlinovský. Ludvík is a unique robot both because of its size and because it is built of LEGO bricks. Thanks to its size, it can communicate face-to-face with elementary schoolchildren. Information about it can be found on Instagram @robotludvik.

PANELISTS



Marek Novák

CZECH REPUBLIC

Member of Parliament, Chairman of the Subcommittee on ICT, Telecommunications and the Digital Economy, Chamber of Deputies

Marek Novák has been an MP since 9. 10. 2021, before serving his mandate he worked as a sales support manager, where he was responsible, among other things, for e-tools for sales support, from the development of the call center to the introduction of the e-shop. In the House of Commons, he is a member of the Economic Committee, Chairman of the Subcommittee on ICT, Telecommunications and the Digital Economy, and a member of the Subcommittee on Transportation. He has been working on the issue of transport during his second parliamentary term, where he is working on topics closely related to e-mobility. In the area of digitization of state administration, it cooperates across ministries so that the state administration proceeds uniformly in digitization projects. He sees the digital economy as an opportunity for digital technologies and the development of the IT sector in the Czech Republic.



Nataša Obermann

CZECH REPUBLIC

Head of Online Customer Journey, ŠKODA AUTO

Nataša Obermann is ŠKODA Auto manager, leading a department focused on customer journey in an online environment. In our Business, there used to be one main touchpoint – the dealership - but this has changed. Many of the customer needs have moved to an online environment, such as websites or mobile apps. My department identifies how the online customer journey should look like. The digital space should support the customer in all aspects of his/her journey and interaction with our company and brand. She can look back on more than 15 years of experience in Automotive field in ŠKODA Auto and Volkswagen Group in both Czech Republic and Germany.

PANELISTS



Michael O'Flaherty

IRELAND

Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Michael O'Flaherty is Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights since 2015. He is a former Professor of Human Rights at the University of Nottingham and the National University of Ireland, Galway. From 2004 to 2012 he was a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, latterly as Vice-Chair. O'Flaherty has held a variety of other positions at the United Nations, both at headquarters and in the field, in which connection he witnessed, reported on, and sought to mitigate human rights abuses in such places as Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sierra Leone. He has also served as Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, as Chairperson of the Irish Penal Reform Trust, and as Vice-Chair of the Universal Rights Group. A solicitor of the Irish Courts, O'Flaherty received the Higher Doctorate of Laws from the National University of Ireland and also holds degrees in international relations, philosophy, and theology.



Veronika Oudová

CZECH REPUBLIC

Ambassador, European Innovation Council

Veronika completed her Master's degree in International Business in Prague and her Master's degree in International Management within the CEMS program in Prague, Vienna, and Rotterdam. As co-founder and CEO of S-Biomedic, Veronika brings many years of experience in forward-looking marketing consulting, business analysis, and quality management to her role at S-Biomedic. Under Veronika's leadership, S-Biomedic has attracted the attention of several major investors and grant programs, such as the EU's Horizon 2020 program. In April 2019, Veronika was named one of the "10 Best Young European Biotechnology Entrepreneurs in 2019" by labiotech.eu. In 2021, Veronika was appointed EIC Ambassador.

PANELISTS



Jiří Pecina

CZECH REPUBLIC

1st Vice-President, Alliance for
Telemedicine, Digitalisation of Health and
Social Services

Since 2016, together with his wife Alena Ingrid Pecina, he has led the development of the MEDDI telemedicine platform, focusing on the development of telemedicine and the digitalization of healthcare in the Czech Republic. MEDDI Hub a.s. offers telemedicine solutions to the public, but it is designed mainly for corporate clients and medical institutions. In 2020, MEDDI became a partner with, and supplier of telemedicine solutions to the Masaryk Cancer Institute in Brno. In 2021, it began to expand into Slovakia and Latin America. Mr. Pecina is the 1st Vice-President of the Alliance for Telemedicine, Digitization of Healthcare and Social Services. He often delivers lectures at conferences focused on healthcare digitization, telemedicine, and innovative technological solutions. At Charles University, he is one of the permanent lecturers at workshops for students of the 1st Faculty of Medicine.



Morten Elbæk Petersen

DENMARK

Director, Sundhed.dk

Morten Elbæk Petersen has been CEO of the Danish eHealth portal sundhed.dk since 2002. The Danish portal sundhed.dk is a world pioneer in the field of open access to medical records, and in addition to the web interface also includes the MinSundhed application. The portal is an important part of the Danish eHealth system, which it proved even during the Covid-19 pandemic when it played a key role in the development of the so-called covid passports.

PANELISTS



Vojtěch Petráček

CZECH REPUBLIC

Rector, Czech Technical University in Prague

Vojtěch Petráček has gone through many important institutions during his career, including foreign ones. Since 2004 he has been working at the Faculty of Nuclear and Physical Engineering of the Czech Technical University, where he teaches experimental physics, relativistic physics of heavy ions and subatomic physics, and is also the guarantor of the Experimental Nuclear Physics specialization. He leads a scientific team working in the ALICE, CBM and AEGIS experiments. His main fields of interest are the physics of ultra-relativistic nuclear collisions and particle physics, whose experimental and theoretical aspects he seeks to connect with students and colleagues in research at the faculty. From 2010 to 2015 he was the Vice-Rector for Science and Research of the Czech Technical University, in 2018 he was appointed Rector of the Czech Technical University in Prague.



Martin Russ

AUSTRIA

Managing Director, AustriaTech Ltd.

Martin Russ has been Managing Director of AustriaTech since 2011. He is the visionary heart of the company. Under his leadership, AustriaTech's areas of responsibility were expanded to include activities relating to "Automated and Clean Mobility". He can look back on more than 25 years of expertise in the field of traffic planning and mobility technologies. He acted as chair of the European Network of ITS Associations from 2018 to 2020. Since July 2019 he is part of the Mission Board for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities within the Horizon Europe research program and he is a Member of the Strategic Advisory Board of DLR (German Aerospace Center).

PANELISTS



Marcus Ryder

UNITED KINGDOM

Journalist and Academic, Birmingham City University

Marcus Ryder is an award-winning journalist and academic. In 2020, Sir Lenny Henry founded the Centre for Media Diversity at Birmingham City University to increase diversity across the industry including journalism, acting, film, television, and radio in front-of-house and behind-the-scenes roles. He has spent over 25 years working in media around the world including the UK, China, and Malaysia; and eight years as a senior fellow at the BBC, winning a number of industry awards – from the Baftas to the Royal Television Society Awards and the Foreign Press Association Awards. He is also President of RADA (Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts), Britain's leading acting school. Last but not least, he is also an avid amateur runner, having completed 20 marathons on all continents except Antarctica.



Karel Řehka

CZECH REPUBLIC

Director, National Cyber and Information Security Office

Karel Řehka has long been engaged in military information operations and hybrid warfare. He was promoted to the rank of brigadier general in the Czech Army. He graduated from the Military High School in Opava and the Military University of the Ground Forces in Vyškov and completed a year-long officer course in the United Kingdom and a Ranger course in the USA. Karel Řehka participated in military missions in the Balkans and Afghanistan. In the Army of the Czech Republic, he served in the 601st Special Forces Group, which he commanded since 2010. Since November 2014, he served as the Head of the Special Forces Directorate of the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic and served as Deputy Commander of the Multinational Division Northeast. He is married with two children.

PANELISTS



Šárka Shoup

CZECH REPUBLIC

Executive Director, Institute for Politics and Society

Šárka Shoup is the director of the Institute for Politics and Society. In this position, she is responsible for managing a team and implementing projects to ensure the continued development of the think-tank. She pursues the communication between the think-tank, the political party, and the ministries. She is responsible for the research at the think-tank which is demanded by the political party, deputies, or external subjects. Šárka covers transatlantic, economic, and migration issues. Her doctoral research was on the issue of migration, the results of which were published on the Web of Science. She holds a doctoral degree (Ph.D.), engineer degree (Ing.), and master's degree (MBA) from the University of Economics in Prague. She holds a master's degree (MA) from the Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3. In 2020 Šárka was elected as a member of the Board of Directors of the European Liberal Forum, a think-tank of the ALDE Party.



Greta Schulte

GERMANY

Secretary General, European FinTech Association and Government & Public Affairs Manager, N26

Greta Schulte is the Secretary General of the European FinTech Association, as well as Government & Public Affairs Manager at the digital bank N26. The European FinTech Association (EFA) is a not-for-profit organisation representing leading FinTech companies of all sizes from across the EU. It brings together a diverse group of 35+ FinTech providers ranging from payments, lending, banking, robo-advice, and investment, as well as software-as-a-service for the finance sector, with a clear focus on enabling a single market for digital financial services. Greta previously spent several years working as a public affairs consultant in Berlin and Brussels, focusing on financial services. She holds a bachelor's degree from Maastricht University, as well as a master's degree from the University of Bristol. She is based in Berlin.

PANELISTS



František Štrupl

CZECH REPUBLIC

Head of Retail, Google

František Štrupl is an experienced business leader who leads Google's sales team responsible for cooperation with leading e-commerce and retail companies in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. He has a wealth of experience in sales, marketing, business strategy, operations, and planning. Before joining Google, he worked at the leading Czech performance marketing agency H1.cz. František studied physics at Charles University in Prague, is married, and has two children and a dog.



Jan Švejnar

CZECH REPUBLIC

IDEA/CERGE-EI, Prague, CGEG, Columbia University, New York

Founder of the Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education-Economics Institute (CERGE-EI) in Prague and a chairman of the Executive and Supervisory Committee of CERGE-EI and Professor and Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance at Columbia University, Mr. Švejnar previously served as Director of the William Davidson Institute (1996–2004) and International Policy Center (2004–2012) at the University of Michigan, where he was also Professor of Business, Economics, and Public Policy. He is a Member of the Forum 2000 Foundation Program Council and served as Economic Advisor to President Václav Havel (1994–2002). In 2008 Mr. Švejnar was one of two candidates for President of the Czech Republic. Mr. Švejnar earned his Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University. He was awarded the NEURON 2012 Prize for his lifetime achievement in Economics and received the 2015 IZA Prize in Labor Economics for his work on economic issues relating to labor, development, and the transition from socialist to market economies. He is currently examining the societal and economic impact of the pandemic.

PANELISTS



Ott Velsberg

ESTONIA

Government Chief Data Officer, Ministry of
Economy and Communications

Ott Velsberg is the Chief Data Officer for the Estonian government. He oversees strategic coordination of the data ecosystem in Estonia, including domains like artificial intelligence, data governance, data science, and open data. He is also a Ph.D. researcher in the Department of Informatics at Umeå University.



Ondřej Vlček

CZECH REPUBLIC

CEO, Avast Software

Ondrej Vlcek serves as Chief Executive Officer for Avast. Together with his senior management team, he executes Avast's vision to deliver people-centric security and spearheads the Company's product innovation program for emerging consumer technology categories, including the Internet of Things and 5G security. Mr. Vlcek was previously President of Avast Consumer, the largest business within the network. Mr. Vlcek was also a key member of the executive team that took the company public on the London Stock Exchange in May 2018.

PANELISTS



Ivo Vondrák

CZECH REPUBLIC

Governor, Moravian-Silesian Region, Member of Parliament, Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

He is a graduate of VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava. He was a rector of the VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava from February 2010 to November 2016. Prior to this, he was Dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Informatics at the same university. He gained a professorship in computer engineering and was a visiting professor at Montanuniversität Leoben in Austria for ten years. He worked on research programmes in the USA for Software Research Labs and Texas Instruments. He is the primary author of a project for building one of the biggest supercomputers in Europe – IT4Innovations. He was also a member of the Government Council for Science, Research, and Innovation between 2011 and 2016. He has been a member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic for the ANO 2011 party since 21 October 2017. He is a member of the Committee for Science, Education, Culture, Youth, and Sports and the Subcommittee for Science and Higher Education. He is currently the chairman of the Committee for Education of the Association of Regions of the Czech Republic Council.



František Vrabel

CZECH REPUBLIC

Founder and Director, Semantic Visions

František Vrabel is the founder and CEO of Semantic Visions, a Czech company that analyses 90% of the world's online news in real-time. He deeply understands the media ecosystem and how it is being abused by state actors, whose goal is to dismantle Western democracy. He is active on the front line of the information war with Russia and is vocal about threats to democracy posed by the Big Tech business model. František Vrabel is a serial entrepreneur with Silicon Valley experience.

PANELISTS



Zdeněk Zajíček

CZECH REPUBLIC

Vice-President, Economic Chamber of the Czech Republic

Zdeněk Zajíček, a graduate of the Prague Law School and an imaginative innovator, is above all one of the key figures of digitalisation in the Czech Republic. The wider public is particularly familiar with him as a pioneer of the digitalisation of government - he has had a number of successful projects during his 30-year career. He and his team invented the CzechPOINT system, Data boxes, and system of Basic registers. After that, he was in charge of ICT as a deputy in a number of ministries. Since 2016 he has been in charge of the ICT Union (dealing with the implementation of modern information technologies into both business and government) and since the autumn of 2020, he has been a Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce. From this position, he managed to prepare and win the support of MPs across the political spectrum for the Digital Right Act, referred to by the professional public as the “digital constitution”, as well as for the Banking Identity Act which provides easier access to the Citizen’s Portal for anyone who uses online banking.



Martin Zeman

CZECH REPUBLIC

Director of IT and Computerization of Health, Ministry of Health

Martin Zeman studied technical cybernetics - medical biocybernetics at the Czech Technical University in Prague and received a postgraduate diploma in strategic management at The Nottingham Trent University. He publishes in the field of management and informatics in healthcare. Currently, he works at the Ministry of Health as the Director of the DEPARTMENT OF IT and Computerization of Health, which includes the National Centre for eHealth. He worked as the CIO of Krajská zdravotní a.s., the largest provider of inpatient care in the Czech Republic. He is the chairman of the Czech Society of Medical Informatics and Scientific Information of the Czech Medical Association. Martin was responsible for the national strategy and implementation of digital health care in the Czech Republic, he is one of the authors of the National eHealth Strategy and the National Health Strategy 2030.

MODERATORS



Jana Brodani

CZECH REPUBLIC

Executive Director, Capital Market
Association of the Czech Republic

Since 2009, she has been Executive Director of the Czech Capital Market Association. In addition to the Faculty of International Relations of the University of Economics, she graduated from the Faculty of Law, Charles University, LL.M. at the University of London in the UK, and a postgraduate program - MASTER Management et Administration des Entreprises (French equivalent MBA) at the French-Czech Management Institute (IFTG). She is a co-author of the Commentary on the Investment Companies and Investment Funds Act and the author of a number of professional publications. She initiated and participated in the preparation of the Strategy for the Capital Market Development in the Czech Republic, which was approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in 2019. At the European level, she contributes to current regulatory issues and regularly lectures at domestic and international conferences. She has long been devoted to the topics of investing in women, development of capital markets in the region of Central and Eastern Europe, and retirement savings.



Tomáš Doležal

CZECH REPUBLIC

Director, Institute for Health Economics,
Co-founder, Medeivo

He graduated from the 1st Faculty of Medicine at Charles University. He worked as an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Pharmacology, where he also worked on and defended his Ph.D. work in pharmacology. He is the founder of the Institute for Health Economics and Technology Assessment (iHETA) and the Director of the commercial research organization Value Outcomes. He is an external lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine at Masaryk University Brno and the FBMI CTU Prague. He founded the information project otvorenezdravotnictvi.cz and is the Editor-in-Chief of the journal "Pharmacotherapy". Between 2019 and 2021, he was elected Chairman of the Czech Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Health Technology Assessment (ČSFEHZT). His main topics of interest include the evaluation of medical technologies, health economics, and digitization of health care.

MODERATORS



Ondřej Houska

CZECH REPUBLIC

Reporter, Hospodářské noviny

Ondřej Houska works for Hospodářské noviny newspaper where he covers the European Union and the Czech European policy. He previously worked as a correspondent in Brussels for the Czech Radio. Ondřej Houska holds a Ph.D. in contemporary history.



Bohumil Kartous

CZECH REPUBLIC

Director, Prague Innovation Institute

Bohumil Kartous is a professional provocateur of public debate. Is he the author of a non-fiction book called No Future: Are We Taking Kids on a Steam Engine into Virtual Reality? (2019). He also co-authored the successful book 2036 (2016), the Orwell steroid interview (2020), and at the beginning of 2022 another book with his essay entitled Behind the Mirror: Hybrid War as an Old-New Phenomenon of International Relations was published. Since July 2020 he has been the director of the Prague Innovation Institute. In his former work, the EDUin think tank, he created the concept of the Audit of the Education System in the Czech Republic. He worked with the Aspen Institute Central Europe to prepare the Aspen Annual conference. He is a co-founder of the expert civic platform KoroNERV-20. He publishes on education and the issue of disinformation in a number of Czech media, regularly commenting on events taking place in education for the Czech media.

MODERATORS



Zdravko Krstanov

CZECH REPUBLIC

Editor-in-Chief, Forbes.cz

Zdravko Krstanov is Editor-in-Chief of Forbes.cz and is responsible for digital content across all channels. He likes to interview notable personalities in the Czech business sphere and beyond. He is interested in how those who go from zero to one think. He follows the startup scene, stock markets, and the richest Czechs. He is part of all Forbes flagship projects such as the annual ranking of the richest Czechs and 30 under 30. He is the author of the Funny Money podcast which airs every Monday.



Roman Máca

CZECH REPUBLIC

Analyst, Institute for Politics and Society

Roman Máca works as a project manager. He is responsible for the realization of projects for the Institute for Politics and Society. At the same time, he works as an analyst on security, media, and ICT issues. Roman studied International Development Studies at the Palacky University in Olomouc. He has experience with leading regional, national, and international projects in cooperation with public and private subjects. In his career, he has traveled eg. to Nigeria, Azerbaijan, and Ukraine. He also publishes on his blog.

MODERATORS



Petr Očko

CZECH REPUBLIC

Deputy Minister for Digitisation and Innovation, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

Petr Očko studied information management and European integration at the University of Economics in Prague and also completed his Ph.D. studies in information economics at the Faculty of Arts at Charles University in Prague. He returned to the state administration in 2009 as Chief Director for the EU Budget and Funds at the Ministry of Transport, and from August 2010 he worked as Section Director for EU Funds, Research, and Development at the Ministry of Industry and Trade. From 2012 to 2013, as the authorized CEO, he was also in charge of the stabilization and development of the CzechInvest agency for business and investment support. Since 2015, he has led the Department of Financial Instruments and Project Management at the Ministry of Industry and Trade and has been preparing in particular the National Innovation Fund project and the transformation of the Czech-Moravian Guarantee and Development Bank. In March 2016, he was appointed chairman of the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic by the government. Since 1 July 2018, he has been Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, managing the Digitization and Innovation Section.



Zdeněk Petzl

CZECH REPUBLIC

Executive Director, Automotive Industry Association

Zdeněk Petzl represents Czech Automotive Industry Association since 2016. In his role as Executive director, he actively defends the interests of its member companies and he participates in the creation of programs and policies supporting the automotive industry. From his previous diplomatic experience at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, he brings knowledge of the functioning of state administration, understanding of European law, and management of legislative procedures in Prague and Brussels. Upon his return to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he defended the European Union's way of applying these standards in our country. Zdeněk Petzl worked as a senior lawyer in the office of government representative for the Czech Republic before the EU Court of Justice and also as Legal Advisor to the Internal Market Ambassador at the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU. He has experience with the leadership and organization of a team of lawyers, he has a wide network of contacts both in the Czech state administration and within the Brussels administration.

MODERATORS



Sara Polak

CZECH REPUBLIC

Artificial Intelligence Archaeologist,
Paioneers

Sara is a Czech who studied archaeology and anthropology at Oxford with a doctorate in human cognition and music. For the past six years, she has worked in hi-tech companies in the UK, USA, and New Zealand. She is the leader of the Czech initiative in the field of artificial intelligence under the prg.ai. The initiative seeks to connect industry, academics, the state, and start-ups to use the talents that the Czech Republic has in the field of AI to make Prague the world center of AI. The focus is on Neuron soundware – a company that specializes in predictive maintenance and revolutionizes manufacturing. This is achieved by detecting the audio signal, which indicates whether the machine is broken. Sara's passion is to help institutions and individuals navigate the next chapter of social development dominated by artificial intelligence. It will cause a breakthrough in the way our agriculture, state, society, and community operate. This is exactly what Sara is currently trying to achieve while working at Startup Disrupt and as the founder of Disrupt House. She wants to help society adopt the latest innovations.

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