

CORPORATE PATRONS

3M Česko
Alcron Hotel Prague
Alliance Laundry CE
Amgen
Atlas Technology Services
BADOKH
Boston Scientific Česká Republika
CertiCon
Citibank Europe
Coca-Cola Česko a Slovensko
CTDI Czech
CTP Invest
Dukane IAS
Deloitte Advisory
DSA
EY
ExxonMobil Business Support Center
Czechia
Garrett Motion
GEN
Hays Czech Republic
Hilton Prague Hotel &
Hilton Prague Old Town Hotel
Honeywell
Johnson & Johnson
KPMG Česká republika
ManpowerGroup
Marriott Hotels International
McKinsey & Company
Medtronic Czechia
MetLife
MICROSOFT
MSD Czech Republic
Oracle Czech
OREA HOTELS & RESORTS
PASSERINVEST GROUP
Philip Morris ČR
PricewaterhouseCoopers Česká
republika
Rockwell Automation
Skils
Squire Patton Boggs
Steelcase Czech Republic
T-Mobile Czech Republic
VISA Europe
Vodafone Czech Republic
White & Case
White Star Real Estate
Y SOFT Corporation
Zátiší Catering Group

Prague, March 1, 2023

Prime Minister
prof. PhDr. Petr Fiala, Ph.D., LL.M.
Government of the Czech Republic
Office of the Government
of the Czech Republic
nábřeží Edvarda Beneše 4
118 01 Praha 1

Dear Prime Minister Fiala,

Innovation will determine the country's future economic success and social progress. Not only does innovation produce advanced technologies that will help us address climate change, improved and more affordable health and social care for an aging population and other societal challenges, but it also generates the national wealth, individual incomes and government revenue that will create better conditions for such government priorities as pension reform and decreasing dependence on Russian oil and gas. Researching, developing, producing, and commercializing advanced technologies, therefore, is a fundamental element of not just economic policy, but a key part of any government program.

The past three years have illustrated innovation's importance. Hospitals had to find new treatments and operational procedures to treat COVID patients without risking infection for patients with other ailments, and companies had to introduce new technologies to maintain operations, which saved jobs and national income. Companies and governments combined to research, develop, and distribute both testing equipment and vaccinations that allowed us to suppress the virus. Ukraine's ability to stop and push back an invader with greater numbers and more equipment has been due not only to bravery and leadership, but to superior information, logistic and military technology. Europe has been able to react to the Kremlin's weaponization of energy supply due to the ability to construct new energy supply routes and both companies and individuals replacing traditional energy supply with renewable technology located onsite.

Czechia, Europe, the United States of America, and the planet will need to rely on our ability to produce new technologies to solve our significant, common challenges. Innovation will be at the center of our efforts to reduce the impact of climate change—and will be essential in meeting that challenge without severe economic and societal disruption. We have already entered a period in which the effectiveness of a nation's innovations will be the primary determinant of its economic status. The requirement of nearly every important economic sector to transform their product line to meet the threat of climate change provides technologically capable countries the opportunity to attain a much more important (and prosperous) position in the global economy by becoming the center of conception, development and production of new, key technologies that will replace those technologies currently entrenched in other economies. The shift to a sustainable economy was already accelerating. The recent massive programs of investment initiated by the EU and United States of America mean

that what place each country will have in the new sustainable economy will likely be determined in the next 5–10 years. Innovation policy, therefore, should be item one on every government's economic agenda, and particularly a country with the great innovative potential of Czechia.

Our ability to innovate requires a consensus on the common, desired objective among all institutions of government, academia, and the business community, and a strategy that aligns those different interests and their assets. AmCham has spent the last several weeks discussing what such objectives and strategy could be within our membership and with key partners in the public and private sector.

In order to make our position transparent and to make clear our proposals would benefit all public research institutions and companies of any nation wishing to pursue high value-added technology development, the following pages contain an executive summary of these proposals and an overview of our recommendations for measurable objectives and the policies needed to create the people, technology and infrastructure to achieve it. We respectfully request the opportunity to discuss the proposal with you to hear your views on innovation and how we can work together to put Czechia at the center of the new sustainable global economy.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Šlapák', written in a cursive style.

Milan Šlapák
President
American Chamber of Commerce
in the Czech Republic