

# Petr Pánek

Office Executive Partner  
White & Case (Europe) LLC

**Board Mission**

I am a father of three girls, a partner with a major New York-based law firm, a Prague born patriot, and a keen cyclist. I genuinely care about the future for my family and the Czech Republic.

Throughout my practice, I have had the pleasure of working with a number of key investors, helping them to understand the workings of this country, its laws, courts, magistrates and politics. Although I have done work for state institutions, such as the Prague Council, when investigating defaults in the course of the Blanka Tunnel procurement, or the Ministry of Finance, when half a billion crowns of state funds were channeled into a private Swiss bank account and then simply lost, I have made a firm decision to act exclusively for private investors, with a focus on U.S.- and Western European-based clients.

Over the years, the most notable U.S.-based clients with whom I have worked have included, for example,

TPG, La Salle, Prologis, Honeywell and Johnson Controls. At our firm, we have assisted a number of the most successful privately held businesses that have outgrown the region and become European or global players, such as Avast, PPF, EPH, CTP and Bonatrans.

We are a confident and independent law firm of reputable standing, and we find ourselves in the best possible position to assist both international investors and major Czech-based players in navigating the current waters. In fact, we have a vested interest in making sure that the Czech legal system continues to improve so as to make sure that this country remains an attractive place to live and do business.

This is a trying time for our young legal and democratic system. Our laws have evolved significantly, but our politicians are increasingly tempted to question the limits of the established rule of law. It is foreign investors and successful local businesses who are typically an easy target and the first to come under pressure in such a political environment.

**Candidate's AmCham Priority:**

As the new leader of our Prague office, I would like to contribute the resources of our firm to the benefit of the AmCham program, with a focus on: (i) transparent and efficient government, (ii) the framework for infrastructure development, (iii) the protection of foreign investment; and (iv) the enhancement of university education through closer cooperation with the private sector.

Based on interest from a number of our clients, I am also specifically interested in the area of automation and potential future regulation of the robotics industry.

**Career History:**

- Prague Office Executive Partner in 2018
- Head of Prague M&A/Corporate Practice in 2012
- Partner in 2009

**Company Membership:**

- Patron since 2003.