

CHECK OUT THE
SHORT VIDEO MESSAGES
WITH WISHES FOR
AMCHAM'S 20TH
ANNIVERSARY!



July 2014



AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC



20 YEARS
OF IMPROVING THE SLOVAK
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

As we do every month, we would like to
inform you about the most important activities.



Links in this email bring you to a Membership Area on www.amcham.sk.
Register to gain full access to member information, sign up for events, and
lots more!

SIGN UP



EVENTS



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars!

SEPTEMBER 05, 2014

AmCham Tatry Golf Tournament
sponsored by Black Stork Golf Resort,
Hotel International, Veľká Lomnica.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2014

Annual Sport's Day
Organized in cooperation with Foreign
Chambers of Commerce in Slovakia.

OCTOBER 08, 2014

**AmChams in Europe Annual Best
Practice Conference**
The American Chamber of Commerce in
the Slovak Republic is proud to host the
AmChams in Europe (ACE) Annual Best
Practice Conference.

OCTOBER 21, 2014

AmCham-Forbes Conference
The prestigious AmCham-Forbes
Conference is back again this year!

OCTOBER 24, 2014

20th Anniversary Celebration
Join us at this festive celebration
of AmCham's presence in
Slovakia!

NOVEMBER 06, 2014

Košice Invest Conference

NOVEMBER 28, 2014

**Thanksgiving Gala Charity
Dinner**
in Bratislava.

[More upcoming events](#)

MEMBER EVENTS

[More member events](#)

PAST EVENTS

JULY 17, 2014

Workshop

JUNE 28, 2014

Independence Day Celebration

JUNE 26, 2014

TRAIN the TRAINER

JUNE 24, 2014

**Summer Business Cocktail in
Košice**

JUNE 23, 2014

**Conference "10 Years in the
EU: Opportunities for Business
Competitiveness & Growth"**

[Gallery of past events](#)



MEMBER NEWS & UPDATES

NEW MEMBERS

- [Swiss Post Solutions, s.r.o.](#)
- [Komerční banka, a.s.,
pobočka zahraničnej banky](#)
- [VIA FRANCE, s.r.o.](#)
- [Taipei Representative
Office, Bratislava](#)
- [Data System Soft, spol. s
r.o.](#)

AMCHAM NEWS

[Advertising opportunity: Slovakia in Figures 2014-2015](#)

AmCham Slovakia, in cooperation with ECENTER, would like to publish the new "Slo...

[Your face on the cover of "Connection" magazine?](#)

The one thing you have always dreamed of, the pinnacle of your aspirations in l...

[more info](#)

MEMBER NEWS

[Mazars and Bartošik Šváby form a new alliance](#)

The audit, accountancy and tax advisory firm Mazars and the law firm Bartošik Šváby (formerly B&...

[Heitman's Aupark Tower and BBC Office tenants continue to expand](#)

Real estate fund Heitman, the owner of Aupark Tower and BBC 5, 4 and 3, the landmark office buildin...

[Relax with your family in hotel International**** in the High Tatras.](#)

We offer you a 3-day stay with buffet style breakfast, unlimited use of the wellness centre, welcom...

[more info](#)



AMCHAM IN THE MEDIA

[AmCham in the media - July 2014](#)

As we do every month, we would like to inform you about some of the most important AmCham media appearances.

Financial Transaction Tax: TA3 reported on the plans of the Slovak government to implement the financial transaction tax, which will be adopted only by 11 EU member states. As part of the report, AmCham's President, Igor Kottman, noted that he does not see this decision as fortunate, especially given that Slovak banks are among the most heavily taxed banks in Europe. You can watch the report [here](#).

AmCham's 20th Anniversary: Jake Slegers gave an interview to "CD Klub", published on teraz.sk, highlighting his experience as an American living in Slovakia for 15 years, and as an Executive Director leading AmCham Slovakia as it celebrates 20th anniversary. Read the interview [here](#).



The May/June issue is available and feature "Education and the labor market" topics.

[More info](#)



COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Business-Academic Cooperation Committee

AmCham in cooperation with Center of North American Studies (CNAS) at the University of Economics in Bratislava and several of its member companies will offer for the 5th year accredited academic courses for university students. American Business Culture and Ethics and HR in American Practice courses present students with a unique possibility to gain a valuable insight into the real American business environment. Interested? Please contact Michal.krcmery@amcham.sk

Copyright Working Group

The Working Group met on July 29, 2014 to discuss the comments and next steps in preparing the legal text for the new Copyright Act. The comments and suggestions will be sent to the Ministry of Culture by the end of August. At the same time, AmCham also sent letters to the European Commission regarding the White Paper on Copyright, highlighting our interest in supporting measures which foster innovation.

Civil Code Task Force

As a result of the Task Force meeting with the Director of the Department of the Consumer Protection and Internal Market of the Ministry of Economy, Mr. Imrich Csiba, AmCham was offered a seat in the working group responsible for preparing the Consumer Act. The working group activities are scheduled to start in September 2014.

Employment and Social Affairs Committee

The Committee met on July 16, 2014 to discuss the proposed amendment of the Labor Code, dealing with temporary agency work. Consequently, AmCham submitted comments through inter-departmental review on July 21, 2014. We expect the dispute procedure to take place in August.

Energy Committee

The Act on Energy Efficiency was discussed at the Government's Legal Council on July 8, 2014. AmCham was represented by Tatiana Prokopova (Squire Patton Boggs) at this meeting, advocating for changes proposed by the Energy Efficiency Working Group. At the same time, the Committee is still asked to contribute with ideas for the new energy brochure. The first draft should be prepared in August.

Public Procurement Task Force

On July 30, 2014, the Task Force submitted the first set of comments on the preliminary draft of the new Public Procurement Act, which is prepared by the Public Procurement Office. The new amendment will primarily transpose the new Public Procurement Directive, but it should also reflect some of the practical challenges encountered as a result of the most recent changes in the law. The Task Force will meet in the week of August 18, 2014, to discuss next steps.

Improving Business Environment Initiative

As part of the "Improving Business Environment Initiative", AmCham will host the next meeting on cross-border trade/ customs on August 4, 2014, together with the Ministry of Finance. The group will discuss the proposals suggested as part of improving Slovakia's ranking in the "Doing Business Survey".

Tax Committee



INTERNSHIPS

In order to help you to connect with the best performing university students, we ask you to provide us with some basic information regarding potential internships offered by your company.



The Legislative and Policy Update highlights major news at both the national and EU level of decisionmaking which is prepared by AmCham staff twice a month. This quick legislative overview assists member companies prepare for legislation changes and informs members about recently adopted legislation.

[More info](#)

The Tax Committee submitted its comments on Income Tax Law amendment through the interdepartmental review on July 29, 2014. The proposed legislation aims to set a limit on tax-deductible expenses for businesses as well as change rules on depreciations and write-offs. In relation to the "Improving Business Environment Initiative", AmCham is scheduled to host the next working group meeting in mid-August.



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