

FDI

CONFERENCE

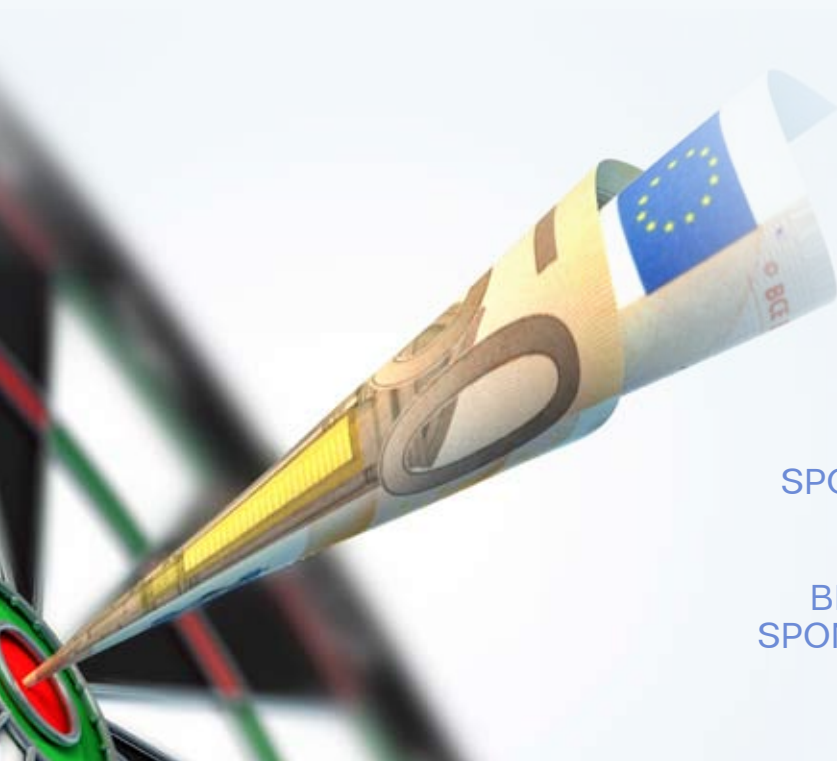
2016



INVESTING AND DOING BUSINESS IN SLOVAKIA

WHAT CAN BE DONE BETTER?

January 28, 2016
Crowne Plaza Bratislava



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KEY FINDINGS

AmCham Slovakia, in cooperation with EY, has conducted its second Foreign Direct Investors Survey. The goal of this survey was to identify current conditions and barriers to foreign investors doing business in the Slovak Republic.

Results of the 2009 survey showed multiple areas for improvement, such as lack of qualified workforce, rather non-favorable administrative environment, non-transparent conditions for allocation of public tenders and financial resources, and corruption. When compared with this year's results there are only a few areas that have improved, according to investors.

We believe that the investors' opinions and recommendations in this survey will stimulate changes towards better business conditions.



55% of respondents think the current **economic policy** is highly ineffective or ineffective for sustainable growth and has not contributed to growth over the past six years (big increase from 27% in 2009).

Over a half of respondents state that the **corruption level has not** changed in the past six years while another 1/3 of respondents believe it to have increased.



Improving **highways and roads** was the primary recommendation from **91%** of the respondents regarding infrastructure.



2/3 of respondents believe that the **state supports** foreign investors in effectively using investment **incentives and EU funds** at least to some degree during the initial phase of investment, but not continually afterwards.



Lack of a **qualified workforce** is the **No. 1 issue** companies face in human resources.

Over **73%** of respondents replied that the costs of their **administrative burden** have increased over the past six years and only 1% stated that they had actually decreased.

Despite these conditions, almost **1/2** of companies are planning to **expand** their business in Slovakia.



Only **10%** of respondents believe that the education system prepares individuals adequately.

Managerial skills are least available skills influencing future growth according to investors.

81% of respondents, who feel legal regulation slows down their business, named the **labor code as the most negative influence**.



67% of respondents think e-Government is implemented insufficiently despite significant public investments in this area.

- 08:30 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 09:05 **WELCOME**
Mr. **Dušan Chreněk** – Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia
Mr. **Jake Slegers** – Executive Director, AmCham Slovakia
- 09:05 – 09:15 **OPENING SPEECHES**
Mr. **Miroslav Lajčák** – Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the SR
Mr. **Peter Škodný** – Second Vice President, AmCham Slovakia
- 09:15 – 9:45 **KEY NOTE SPEECH I: RESULTS OF THE FDI SURVEY 2015**
Mr. **Matej Bošňák** – Country Managing Partner, EY Slovakia
- 09:45 – 10:45 **PANEL I - COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE – view of Business Services Centers**
Topics: 2015 BSC sector overview; Regional/global competition for talent; Education in Slovakia: hard skills vs soft skills; Labor market conditions

Mr. **Rastislav Chovanec** – State Secretary, Ministry of Economy of the SR
Mr. **Paul Burt** – Location Leader and Managing Director, IBM ISC
Mr. **František Jakab** – Director of UCITT, Technical University of Košice
Mr. **Martin Bednár**, Financial Director, DELL
Mr. **Gabriel Galgóci** – Chair, Business Service Center Forum (Moderator)
- 10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 12:00 **PANEL II - INVESTING IN SLOVAKIA**
Topics: Administrative burden; Legal framework; Public administration; Better regulation; Investment barriers

State representative (tbc)
Mr. **László Baranyay** – Vice President, European Investment Bank
Ms. **Anne Bucher** – Deputy Director-General DG ECFIN, European Commission
Mr. **Matej Bošňák** – Country Managing Partner, EY Slovakia
Mr. **Ján Oravec** – President, Entrepreneurs Association of Slovakia
Ms. **Lívia Vašáková** – Economic Counsellor, Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia (Moderator)
- 12:00 – 12:20 **KEY NOTE SPEECH II**
Ms. **Ivica Ďuricová** – Member of the Board, Young Entrepreneurs Association of Slovakia
- 12:20 – 13:15 Lunch

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- **Sharing Grafton studies, surveys and other market outcomes**
- **Providing suggestions based on successfully completed investment projects**
- **Tailoring project plans for recruitment and onboarding**
- **Delivering recruitment and temporary assignment services**

**AmCham
Slovakia**



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22 – Years in Slovakia

20 – Percentage of Slovakia's GDP produced by AmCham members

340 – Number of members

100,000 – Number of employees in AmCham membership

15,500,000,000 – Turnover in EUR of our top 100 companies