

GOVERNMENT MEASURES

For your notes

OLK receives 5 ambulances with germicide lamps

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Olomouc Region (OLK) has received five more Volkswagen ambulances for the Olomouc Regional Emergency Medical Services. It has acquired a total of 14 of them in 2022. The contract's value is almost CZK 50m. The vehicles contain stretchers and pulmonary ventilators. Regional board member Ivo Mareš (ODS) said they also included built-in germicide lamps that disinfected the vehicles after transporting patients suffering from an infectious disease. ■

SYRI: Vaccination likely reduced no. of deaths 3.5 times

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Vaccination probably reduced the number of deaths 3.5 times. It reduced the number of so-called lost years of life by 84-89 %. This is according to data from the National Institute for Research on the Socioeconomic Impact of Disease and Systemic Risk (SYRI). The representative time period of the research was the situation in 4Q 2021. The highly virulent delta variant with increased infectivity prevailed in the Czech population, and residents over the age of 12 had the opportunity to be vaccinated at the same time. During this period, a total of 5,797 people died in connection with the disease COVID-19. As of September 7, 2022, 6.89 million people in the Czech Republic, i.e. 64.4 % of the population, had been fully vaccinated. ■

MZ: Out of 18,019,595 vaccinations, 14,935,689 were Pfizer - BioNtech/Comirnaty doses

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

As of September 22, 2022, 18,019,595 vaccinations against COVID-19 were reported in the Czech Republic. The number of doses increased by 9,798 compared to the previous day. Comirnaty/Pfizer, BioNtech administrations totalled 14,935,689. They were followed by SPIKEVAX/Moderna (1,629,747), VAXZEVRIA/AstraZeneca (887,536), Janssen (413,738), Comirnaty 5-11 (110,647) and Nuvaxovid/Novavax (10,204), according to data published by the Ministry of Health (MZ). ■

Foster care allowances to grow

Wednesday, September 21 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Allowances for foster parents and children who grow up in foster families will increase from the beginning of October 2022. The government regulation foresees a 27% increase in the allowance to cover the needs of the child. The one-off allowance increases by 35% when a child is taken over. Carer's Allowance, which helps young people leave institutional, foster or guardian care, will increase by 15%. Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Marian Jurečka (KDU-ČSL) said that some allowances were last adjusted in 2008, while these are groups of people who are largely dependent on income from the state, especially at a time of rising prices. ■

MPSV: CZK 5,000 contribution paid to over 1m children

Friday, September 16 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In the first month, 610,000 people applied for the one-time contribution of CZK 5,000 per child at the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MLSV). It is always one of the parents or foster parents of children under 18 years of age. The contribution has already been sent to more than 1.1m children. After the payments to those who receive the child allowance, contributions began to be reimbursed based on the applications submitted via the JENDA client portal or at selected Czech POINTs. ■

HK: Price capping, compensation maximum possible

Saturday, September 17 | ČIANEWS

For the time being, also due to the budget possibilities, the capping of energy prices and government-approved compensations are probably the maximum possible. This information was provided to ČIANEWS by Czech Chamber of Commerce (HK) Legislation, Law and Analyses department director Ladislav Minčíč. He pointed out the possibility of activating kurzarbeit, and the liberalisation of income tax advance payments was being discussed in parallel. However, the acceleration of practical government financial assistance in 2022 and the extension of the chosen solution, for which a decision on the EU level is necessary, are essential. ■

INTERREG Bavaria-CR has EUR 99m for projects

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The 2021-2027 INTERREG Bavaria-Czech Republic cross-border programme was launched on September 22, 2022. This information was provided by the Czech Ministry for Regional Development, adding that the programme would offer EUR 99.1m towards projects from the European Regional Development Fund. Most of the funding will go to projects in the areas of culture and sustainable tourism to help those sectors after the pandemic. In addition, funding was increased for the Adaptation to the Climate Change and Environmental Protection and Education priorities. Among other things, activities focused on developing modern technologies and on research directly applicable in practice will be supported. Applications for a contribution can be submitted in the first round until December 14, 2022. They are registered electronically by the Jems monitoring system and can be submitted on an ongoing basis. ■

MOBEN disagrees with mandatory contribution to home office

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Czech Association for Modern Benefits (MOBEN) rejects the introduction of a mandatory flat rate for working from home, which is proposed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs in an amendment to the Labor Code. Companies would have to pay employees a flat rate of CZK 2.80 for every hour of remote work started to cover the costs of heating, electricity, water and waste removal. ■

PRIVATE SECTOR – ACTIVITIES

VUT develops 2nd generation of sample-testing robot

Friday, September 16 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Scientists from the Brno University of Technology (VUT) have developed a second generation of an automated solution for the initial handling of samples called openTube2. For more than two months, the system was tested in real operation at the Department of Internal Medicine, Haematology and Oncology's Molecular Biology and Genetics Centre lab in the University Hospital Brno. The robot handled potentially infectious samples tested for Covid-19. The development of the system was possible thanks to financial support from a project by the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade and collaboration with SMC, opticontrol, Sipoch, KR, MANN+HUMMEL and ABB Robotika. ■

Kolín Hospital receives EU subsidy for MR

Sunday, September 18 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

On September 16, 2022, the Kolín District Hospital commissioned a new nuclear magnetic resonance site. The new equipment was provided by Siemens Healthcare. The acquisition price is CZK 62.66m. The new premises for the equipment were built by Realitní a stavební společnost for CZK 36.5m. The investment in the structure and equipment will be fully covered by the REACT-EU subsidy programme of the Czech Ministry of Regional Development. ■

ČPZP spent CZK 737m on Alzheimer's treatment

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Česká průmyslová zdravotní pojišťovna (ČPZP) paid almost CZK 737m for the treatment of its clients diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease over the past five years. Since 2017, these costs have increased by 34.5%. In 2021, the insurance company paid almost CZK 158m to health service providers for the care of these patients, in 2020 it was CZK 180m. The year-on-year reduction in costs can be attributed to the coronavirus, when there was a higher number of deaths of elderly people, which meant less care was provided and therefore reported. Last year, ČPZP registered 2,895 patients with this diagnosis. ■

Konica Minolta offers video analytics software

Monday, September 19 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Programmers at Konica Minolta's Brno development centre have developed their own video analytics software (SW) to control the quality and efficiency of production. The new technology, in conjunction with Mobotix smart cameras, uses artificial intelligence to ensure low production error rates, detect damage, count products and monitor the entire production cycle. Already in the first year after the installation of FORXAI software, Konica Minolta says it is possible to save up to hundreds of thousands of crowns in the operations of manufacturing and logistics companies. ■

Prologis acquires EUR 1.59bn worth of space in 7 cities

Thursday, September 15 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Prologis has added 1.14 million m² of urban logistics space in Europe. The value of the transaction amounts to EUR 1.59bn. Through its PELF fund, Prologis acquired 128 buildings and six development projects in seven EU countries from operator Crossbay. The locations are Rome, Milan, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Madrid, Barcelona, Nuremberg, Berlin, Paris, Brussels and Lodz. With a current portfolio occupancy of 95%, Prologis now expects to expand its customer base by more than 110 companies as a result of the transaction. Centres from which to serve densely populated zones are increasingly important for customers following the COVID-19 pandemic and as the e-commerce segment expands, according to Prologis. ■

Žabka installed screens near pastry shelves

Monday, September 19 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Supermarket chain Žabka installed screens at shelves with non-packaged baked goods in Prague's Eden, Legerova and Oblouková streets. The aim of the pilot project is to increase the hygiene standard and maintain the quality of baked goods. The inspiration for this step came from colleagues from Žabka in Slovakia, who started this trend in 2020. ■

For your notes

ŠKODA AUTO produced 5,387 cars last week

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In the M13 OCTAVIA operation in Mladá Boleslav, 413 cars per shift and 1,239 cars per day are produced in the 38th week. Last week, they produced 5,387 cars in M13, of which 4,075 were OCTAVIAs and 1,312 were ENYAQs. The Kovo MB Trade Union informed that production at the OCTAVIA Welding Plant was disrupted last week by the sudden cancellation of two night shifts. On the M1 FABIA service, three night shifts were cancelled on the M1 last week. The FABIA welding shop only worked in two shifts when the lack of parts became apparent again. All MB paint shop operations produced without major breakdowns last week. This week, Paint Shop A is producing in limited night shifts and with the canceled 6th morning shift, and Paint Shop B is producing completely without night shifts. ■

ŠKODA AUTO to cancel some shifts in Week 39

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In the 39th week of 2022, ŠKODA AUTO plans to cancel the night shifts for MB I assembly and MB B paint shop on Monday and Wednesday to Friday. There will also be no night shifts at MB I welding shop (from Wednesday to Friday). The Saturday morning shift will be cancelled in MB A paint shop. Some shifts in these operations will be restricted. MB II welding shop and MB II vehicle assembly are running without restrictions. All Saturday shifts are cancelled in vehicle production in Kvasiny. In the production of components, the night shift in the night on Monday will be cancelled at EA211 engines with regard to cylinder head machining, block machining, connecting rod machining, plasma operation and M6 block machining foundry. The restricted operation will affect Vrchlabí. The Odbory KOVO MB trade union also announced that there would be compensation for the cancelled shifts at 80% of the average wage. ■

Comgate included deferred Twisto payments in gateway

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Comgate has implemented in its payment gateway the new payment method Buy in thirds from fintech Twisto. The service can thus immediately be offered to up to the customers of up to 12,000 e-shops. The method allows you to spread out a payment over CZK 1,500 for a purchase within three months directly from the shopping cart, without registration and without an increase. Director of Comgate Jakub Ouhřabka said that for merchants, a wider range of payment methods on the payment gateway increases the frequency and value of purchases, as well as the share of completed payments in the e-shop. Twisto's country manager for the Czech Republic, Jan Hanzlík, stated that the demand for BNPL services is growing both from e-shops and from customers. In 2021, Twisto mediated 8 million transactions in the Czech Republic and Poland. ■

Carvago unveils online auction platform for car sales

Wednesday, September 21 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

European online marketplace Carvago.com has unveiled a new online auction platform that allows customers to sell a car from the comfort of their own home and choose the best deal from the bids. Customers bid for their vehicle for free in the virtual auction and receive information about the highest bid after three days. Bids from dealers are valid for 48 hours. For dealers, the platform also opens the way to offer used cars from private buyers that are suitable for resale. The new portal will gradually be launched in all European countries where Carvago operates. ■

Bidli OKs houses in Libeř with PV, offers Smart Loxone

Wednesday, September 21 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Bidli has completed the first phase of a residential project in Libeř near Prague comprising seven houses. All of them are equipped with their own photovoltaic power plant (PV power plant) and, if customers wish, also with Bidli Smart Loxone smart home technology. A total of 16 low-energy wooden houses with five rooms and kitchenette will be built in Libeř. Each house already has its owner. According to the developer, at the present time, which brings with it rising prices, uncertainty in the energy market and high inflation, economical housing with renewable resources and modern technologies is increasingly in demand. ■

Geis supported the Avon March for Healthy Breasts

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

After a two-year covid break, Geis CZ again became a partner of the Avon March for Healthy Breasts. The event aims to support women with breast cancer and their families. The twentieth year took place on September 17, 2022 in Prague. ■

ECONOMY - CONSEQUENCES

Industrial prices up 25.5% year on year

Sunday, September 18 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In August 2022, prices of agricultural producers grew by 38.3% year on year. Industrial producers increased their prices by 25.5%. Construction work prices were 13.4% higher, while market services for companies were 6.5% more expensive, according to figures published by the Czech Statistical Office. In month-on-month terms, agricultural prices dropped by 2.3%, and industrial prices were 0.1% lower. On the other hand, construction work prices grew by 1.3%, and services were 0.8% more expensive. According to preliminary data by Eurostat, prices of industrial producers in EU countries grew by 37.8% year on year in July; they were 26.8% higher in the Czech Republic and increased by 43.5% in Slovakia. ■

For your notes

Shopping centres with record revenue in Q2, 96% occupancy

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Shopping centres posted record-high revenue in the second quarter of 2022, according to the Czech Association of Shopping Centres (ANC ČR). Compared to the pre-Covid year 2019, there was an increase of 17.3% and 23% in May. The occupancy rate of the centres is also high, at 96%. This August, the visits to the centres were 8.7% lower than in the same period of 2019. Data for the Number of Visits Index project was processed for the Association by consulting and auditing company PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC). ■

CREDITAS: Every other Czech starts buying cheaper goods

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The increasing prices are being ever more reflected in most Czechs' lifestyle and purchasing behaviour. Roughly seven in ten persons perceive a drop in their quality of life. In contrast, 35% of the persons consider the decrease strong, according to data published by Banka CREDITAS and an Instant Research poll conducted by IPSOS. Almost half the people (48%) are coping with the growing prices in stores by buying cheaper goods. Czechs have also restricted expenditures on clothing in favour of food, energy and transport. Almost all respondents (98%) perceive a worsening in the entire state of the Czech economy. ■

Dell: Employee digitalisation problem for 50% of firms

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

After two years of accelerated digital transformation, half (51%) of IT managers in the EMEA region say that their organisation does not know what is necessary for the labour's digital transformation, according to a poll conducted by Dell Technologies. Approximately 10% of employees actively implement transformation projects, whereas 42% accept changes slowly or downright unwillingly. People in the sector of life sciences (biotechnologies, genetics, neurology, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment) are scared most of technological changes. Approximately 17% of the respondents from all sectors are worried technologies will replace their work. ■

Colliers: Industrial properties exceed 10 mln m2

Wednesday, September 21 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Czech industrial real estate market reached 10.14 million m2 in Q2 2022, Colliers International reported, adding that it also saw the largest ever transaction in this segment in the Czech Republic, with an as yet undisclosed distributor leasing almost 234,000 m2 of space. In total, 146,600 m2 of space was added in Q2. At the end of the period under review, the vacancy rate fell q/q and y/y to 1.45%. The addition of new space is slowed by construction delays and rising material prices, yet Colliers expects the market to grow in the coming year. ■

ČNB: Pension company funds post CZK 5.5bn loss

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Pension company funds in the Czech Republic posted a net loss of CZK 5.53bn for the first half of 2022. A year earlier, they were CZK 3.76bn in profit. Interest income and similar income totalled CZK 6.97bn. The total number of funds grew by one to 43. Their total assets increased from CZK 573.03bn to CZK 580.30bn, according to data from the Czech National Bank (ČNB). ■

Nielsen: Value of TV advertising grows to CZK 41.5bn

Thursday, September 22 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The pricelist value of advertising space on TV grew by 11% year on year to CZK 41.45bn between January and August 2022. In addition, its value increased by 10% to CZK 12.20bn in printed media. The radio recorded a 14% increase to CZK 5.33bn, while OOH advertising was 21% higher and totalled CZK 3.07bn, according to the information provided by Nielsen Admosphere. In August alone, the value of advertising space amounted to CZK 4.25bn on TV (up 7%), CZK 1.56bn in printed media (up 5%), CZK 644.66m on the radio (up 5%), and the OOH segment recorded a 5% growth to CZK 401.23m. ■

ManpowerGroup: 93% of people want flexibility at work

Wednesday, September 21 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

After the experience of the pandemic, 93% of employees consider flexibility at work to be important. For 45% of respondents, this means being able to choose the start and end of working hours, for 35% the ability to choose whether to work from home. This is according to a survey by Reputation Leaders for ManpowerGroup in Australia, France, Italy, the UK and the US. Condensed working hours to four days a week is desired by 64% of respondents, while 18% of respondents would work four days even with lower pay. Trust in colleagues was considered most important by 79% of employees, while trust in managers was rated highest by 71% of employees. ■

Deloitte: M&A to weaken by 14 %

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The European M&A market will decline by 14.4 % in 3Q 2022. The dynamics of the market for the rest of the year will be most influenced by the current geopolitical and economic uncertainty. The Deloitte M&A Index also shows that, despite the decline, European M&A activity is likely to be more resilient than in the US and other global markets. The European market is still capable of a rapid recovery. It continues to show strength due to steady growth in energy, materials and manufacturing transactions as well as an increase in market transactions in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe. The trend is for startups and smaller companies that can raise a large amount of capital, have intellectual property, i.e. their own software, patent or technology, or top experts. Investors can also be expected to focus their attention on potential investments in sectors that are resilient to rising energy costs and supply chain disruptions. ■

For your notes

MGI: Share of cos. planning recruitment down to 33 %

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Employers in the Czech Republic report a decrease in recruitment optimism for 4Q 2022. A total of 33 % (3Q: 38 %) plan to hire, 22 % (3Q: 17 %) plan to lay off, 41 % will make no changes and 4 % don't know yet. The outlook worsened most in large companies with more than 250 employees. The ManpowerGroup Index (MGI) labor market survey also shows that, similar to other countries in the EMEA region, labor market growth is expected to slow compared to 3Q 2022. The CEO of ManpowerGroup, Jaroslava Rezlerová, said that on the one hand, some companies are increasing their activity in connection with the subsidence of the problem associated with the pandemic, on the other hand, growing problems can be observed, especially in energy-intensive operations. ■

ČNB: Insurers saw profits fall 66 % to CZK 6.7bn in 1H22

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Insurance companies active on the Czech market reported a profit of CZK 6.73bn for 1H 2022. A year earlier, it was CZK 19.96bn. The result of the technical account for non-life insurance fell from CZK 11.89bn to CZK 2.25bn. The result of the technical account for life insurance decreased from CZK 9.31bn to CZK 4.12bn. The total number of insurance companies operating in the Czech Republic decreased by four to 41 entities at the end of the monitored period. This follows from data published by the Czech National Bank (ČNB). ■

MF: Pension insurance deficit increased to CZK 11.91bn

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Income from pension insurance premiums, including voluntary insurance, reached CZK 375.2bn in August 2022 and increased month-on-month from CZK 327.33bn. Expenditures on pension insurance benefits, including administrative expenses, amounted to CZK 387.12bn, in July 2022 it was CZK 337.11bn. The Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic informed about this, stating that the balance of the management of the pension insurance system showed a value of CZK -11.91bn (July 2022: CZK -9.78bn). As of December 31, 2021, there were 2.858 million pensioners in the Czech Republic and the average retirement pension reached CZK 15,425. ■

Auto SAP: Passenger car production up 3.4% in 8M

Monday, September 19 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Totally 801,774 passenger vehicles were produced (+3.4% y/y) in 8M 2022. The growth is driven by an improved supply and demand chain situation as well as a low comparative base in 2021, when production fell due to semiconductor chip shortages. The Automotive Industry Association (Auto SAP) also reported that 86,224 electric passenger cars (BEV + PHEV) were produced, with a 10.8% share of total production. 3,361 buses were produced (+12.6%). JAWA Moto increased its production by 603 machines to 1339 (+81.9%). Zdenek Petz, Executive Director of the association, added that the extreme rise in energy prices is fundamentally threatening the competitiveness and maintenance of production in the Czech Republic, and for a significant part of the supplier sector, their very existence. The government should therefore extend assistance to industry and ensure the stability of the business environment through systemic changes in the energy sector. ■

Airline bookings from Europe up 140% in summer

Monday, September 19 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Airline ticket bookings on Kiwi.com from Europe for summer 2022 have seen a 140% increase compared to summer 2021, beating summer 2019 figures by 92.5%. Most bookings (56%) were for June and July. A total of 28% of tourists with return tickets spent between one and two weeks on holiday. The most popular destinations were traditionally Italy, Spain and Greece. London was the most visited city. The average price of a ticket from Europe was €175, up 42% y/y and down 11% on 2019. Global travel tech company Kiwi.com reported that Barcelona, Vienna and Rome Fiumicino were the busiest airports and low-cost airlines were the most common choice. ■

Home Portal: Developers waive inflation clauses

Monday, September 19 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Developers are backing away from price and inflation clauses. This was revealed by a Home Portal survey. While a year ago more than a quarter of contracts had inflation or price clauses, today the figure is less than 5%. Jan Vitvera, Home Portal's commercial director, said developers often do not have the option of discounts on new builds, so they are opting for other forms of concessions. He added that the real estate market has been cooling in recent months, also due to rising interest rates, and gradual discounting is already appearing in older developments. However, prices will not fall for new builds. ■

GP: Foreigners' card payments up 47% to CZK 5bn in summer

Monday, September 19 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Foreign tourists spent almost CZK 5bn (+47% y/y) with payment cards in the Czech Republic in July and August 2022. Data from Global Payments (GP) also shows that the average value of a single transaction fell by almost 23% to CZK 1,575. According to GP economist Ondrej Stříbrský, this is due to the increased use of payment cards. The total number of transactions increased from 2.5 million in 2021 to almost 4.9 million (+91%). Germans spent the most domestically (more than CZK 1.2bn). The Slovaks came second with a record 730,000 transactions and spent almost CZK 600m. The third Irish ranked third with CZK 411m. ■

Petrol cheaper to CZK 39.21/l and diesel to CZK 44.75/l

Friday, September 16 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The average consumer price of Natural 95 petrol in the 37th week of 2022 compared to the 36th week in the Czech Republic decreased from CZK 40.46 to CZK 39.21/l. Diesel fuel became cheaper from CZK 45.48 to CZK 44.75/l. The price of LPG fell from CZK 18.53 to CZK 18.51/l. According to the Czech Statistical Office, the price of gas oil showed a decrease from CZK 26,997 to CZK 25,988/1,000 liters. ■

For your notes

NEWS FROM SLOVAKIA

For your notes

MPRV SR negotiated with food producers and chains

Tuesday, September 20 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

On September 20, 2022, representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic (MPRV SR) held talks with representatives of food producers and business chains about high energy prices, inflation and the prices of other inputs. The goal is to find a joint solution to support domestic food production. This will be prepared by the MPRV SR together with the departments of economy and finance. ■

Bratislava Airport handled 1m+ passengers in 8M

Wednesday, September 21 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

M.R. Štefánik Airport Bratislava (BTS) handled more than 1 million passengers on arrivals and departures in the first eight months of 2022. This is more than in the last two years combined. For August 2022, 249,261 passengers were handled. The passenger recovery rate from 2019 has stabilised at 76% for August (July 2022 was at 77%). From January to August 2022, 17,191 take-offs and landings took place at the airport, with 2,947 flights in August alone. ■

Inflation in SR accelerated to 13.4% in August

Friday, September 16 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

According to the European harmonized methodology, consumer prices in Slovakia increased by 13.4% year on year in August 2022. In July, this figure was 12.8%. Month-on-month inflation reached 0.7%. The average rate of inflation over the last 12 months compared to the previous period was 8.8%, according to the Slovak Statistical Office. ■

SR's foreign trade with positive balance of EUR 1.88bn

Wednesday, September 21 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Slovakia's foreign trade surplus reached EUR 1.88bn in 2021, almost 50% less than in 2020. Despite the pandemic and disruptions in supply chains, exports of goods strengthened by 16.6% y/y to EUR 88.55bn. Imports were also significantly higher. The Slovak Republic imported goods worth EUR 86.68bn, up 19.4% y/y. The Slovak Statistical Office published the data, adding that it was a refinement of preliminary data from March this year. Slovakia exported the highest value of goods to Germany and neighbouring countries, with a year-on-year increase. Exports to Germany increased by 12%, the Czech Republic by 29.3%, Poland by 24% and Hungary by 35%. Exports to the USA (-1.4%), the Republic of Korea (-18.9%) and Norway (-22.1%) decreased. Almost 80% of the value of exported goods (+18.3%) went to EU countries. Imports also grew dynamically. From Germany it increased by 21.9%, from the Czech Republic by 15.8% and from China by 28.3%. Imports from EU countries increased by 15.1% (accounting for over 64% of total imports). ■

Series of horizontal lines for taking notes.