

EU2022.CZ, ECONOMY, POLICY AND STRATEGY

 For your notes

EP called for higher military aid to Ukraine

 Thursday, October 6 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) have called on all countries and international organisations to unequivocally condemn the pseudo-referendum in Ukraine and Russia's efforts to gain territory by force. In a resolution adopted on October 6, 2022, MEPs state that the results of the pseudo-referendums on the annexation of the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhya regions, which took place under the threat of the use of weapons, are null and void and call on member states to adopt further tough sanctions. At the same time, the EP asked EU and other countries to significantly increase their military aid to Ukraine. ■

EC: CR should get EUR 2.5bn for employment protection

 Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

On October 3, 2022, the European Commission (EC) submitted to the Council a proposal to grant additional financial support to the Czech Republic in the amount of 2.5 billion euros under the SURE instrument, which would increase the total support for the Czech Republic to EUR 4.5bn. Once the Council approves the proposal, financial support will be provided in the form of loans on preferential terms. These will be primarily intended to cover expenditures on job protection in the 2020 and 2021 Covid period. The measures include the reduced working hours regime and similar measures for the self-employed, which were abolished at the beginning of 2022. ■

MF: CR to receive CZK 16.7bn of EUR 20bn RePowerEU package

 Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

EU finance ministers agreed on October 4, 2022 in Luxembourg to adopt a RePowerEU investment package worth a total of EUR 20bn. The Czech Republic should receive a 3.4% share of the facility, i.e. EUR 681.6m (roughly CZK 16.7bn). The Czech Finance Ministry said the aim is to rid the EU of its dependence on unstable supplies of Russian fossil fuels following the Russian Federation's aggression in Ukraine. The ECOFIN Council agreement will allow the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU (CZ PRES) to start negotiations with the European Parliament so that the implementation of the programme in the Member States can begin as soon as possible. Member States will be able to apply for the disbursement of the approved funds until August 31, 2023. ■

P. Fiala assured L. Truss of support for UK's NSEC entry

 Thursday, October 6 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

P. Fiala assured L. Truss of support for Britain's entry into NSEC

On October 6, 2022, Prime Minister Petr Fiala (ODS) held talks with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Liz Truss, as part of the European Political Community Summit. The officials discussed the possibilities of further assistance to Ukraine, especially in the military field. In a discussion on energy cooperation, the Czech Prime Minister stressed that the Czech Republic supports the UK's re-engagement in the North Sea Energy Cooperation (NSEC). He added that this step will strengthen European energy cooperation and security. Discussions on bilateral relations focused in particular on the possibilities of strengthening cooperation in the fields of defence and nuclear energy. The Czech Government Office reported that Czech exports to the UK increased by 9.2% y/y in H1 2022 and imports to the Czech Republic by 14.3%. ■

Government extends checks at border with Slovakia

 Wednesday, October 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Czech government has decided to continue checks at the internal border with Slovakia until October 28, 2022. The measure introduced because of a dramatic increase in illegal migration and increased activity of organised trafficker groups will thus be extended by 20 days. In addition, apart from members of the Czech Customs Administration, 80 soldiers of the Czech Armed Forces will now help guard the border. Interior Minister Vít Rakušan (STAN) said he would discuss the situation on the West Balkan route at the upcoming meeting of interior ministers of EU states. ■

MZV has called on Czech citizens to leave Russia

 Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In view of the ongoing military invasion of the Russian Federation into Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic (MZV) called on the citizens of the Czech Republic to leave Russia. In this context, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs once again appeals to citizens of the Czech Republic who are staying or living in the country for a long time to register in the Voluntary Registration of Citizens of the Czech Republic when Traveling Abroad (DROZD) system, which makes it possible to effectively provide up-to-date information on travel and stay. At the same time, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs warned that due to the strained relations between the Russian Federation and the EU and NATO states, the activities of the embassies of the Czech Republic in the Russian Federation may be restricted, and the Czech Republic will thus have only limited opportunities to provide assistance and protection to Czech citizens on the territory of the Russian Federation. ■

MF: Budget deficit increased to CZK 271bn in September

Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

At the end of September 2022 the state budget deficit reached CZK 270.9bn. After adjusting for income from the European Union and financial mechanisms, the deficit amounted to CZK 255.6bn. The Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic (MoF) informed about this, stating that the balance worsened by CZK 39.7bn in September, but in the 9 months of the year it was better by CZK 55.4bn year-on-year. The income side was helped by tax revenues, which were higher by 15.1 %. Expenditures were deepened by the extraordinary valorization of pensions, a contribution to cover household energy costs (the so-called savings tariff), increased benefits for housing and material hardship, a one-off child allowance, humanitarian aid or an advance to regional education. ■

Moore: Government research spending up 1.4%; EU up 6.3%

Thursday, October 6 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The government will invest EUR 136.5 per capita in research and development in 2021 from the state budget. The EU average was EUR 244.3. Eurostat data also shows that the Czech Republic increased its investment by 1.4% y/y, while the EU average was 6.3%. According to experts from the Moore Czech Republic consulting group, the Czech Republic's future increase in investment is crucial both to transform into a higher value-added economy and to make the country more attractive to foreign investors. Group partner Radovan Hauk said that the Czech Republic is also facing a shortage of skilled workers in technical professions. In addition to supporting research and development, he said it is necessary to develop links with practice and closer cooperation between schools and companies. ■

Export Index: Falling demand jeopardies export

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

At 10.2% y/y in August, growth in the value of exports was slightly above the Export Index's prediction of close to 8%. Raiffeisenbank and the Association of Exporters reported that it was not purely a matter of growth in the volume of goods exported, but mainly export prices, which were 14.2% higher y/y in August. The Export Index continues to predict a gradually weakening annual growth rate in exports, which is close to zero at the end of the year. The main reasons for this are the deterioration in external demand and in domestic industry. An improvement in the situation is unlikely given the current high production costs combined with an uncertain economic outlook. Exports are more likely to be driven by the completion of work in progress. However, the key question, apart from demand, is whether there will be sufficient energy to enable the industry to complete the work in progress at all. ■

PwC: 19 % of people want to ask for raise

Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Nineteen percent of Czech employees will demand a salary increase in the coming months. This is the lowest in Europe and well below the global average (35 %). So-called millennials (people aged 26-41) most often (27 %) want to ask for more money. In the world it is 41 %. The PwC Global Workforce Hopes and Fears 2022 study also shows that people aged 42-57 are most satisfied with their salary, with 14 % wanting a raise. Czechs are among the least active in the world when it comes to wage claims. Of all the countries tracked, only Japan and South Korea saw fewer people wanting a raise. On the contrary, Indians, Chinese or residents of the USA are most likely to ask for a raise. In Europe, Romanians and Poles are above the global average. ■

LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

EP approves single charger for mobile devices

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

By the end of 2024 at the latest, all mobile phones, tablets and cameras sold in the EU will have to be equipped with a USB-C charging port. In spring 2026, this obligation will be extended to laptops and generally all devices up to 100 W powered by a cable. The new regulation, adopted by the European Parliament (EP) on October 4, 2022, is part of a wider EU effort to reduce e-waste. At the same time, the EU also wants to help consumers make more environmentally friendly purchasing choices. ■

SUBSIDIES, INVESTMENTS, EU MARKET

MZe spent over CZK 2bn on small water management projects

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Ministry of Agriculture (MZe) provided more than CZK 2bn for water management measures on small water reservoirs and small streams. For this money, almost 1,300 projects were supported in 2016-2021, of which 773 were water reservoirs. The cost of retaining 1 m³ has been kept below CZK 250. Among other things, 37 new ponds were created and the storage capacity of small reservoirs increased by 1.4 million m³. Applicants added another CZK 1.093bn from their own resources. Due to the great interest of municipalities and associations of municipalities in this type of subsidies, the MZe has prepared a follow-up programme scheduled until the end of 2024. The first projects have already been successfully implemented. ■

For your notes

CI: Towns seek subsidies for brownfield regeneration

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MPO) has received applications for subsidies for 35 projects from municipalities under the Brownfields Regeneration for Business Use programme. The number exceeded the milestone set under the National Regeneration Plan (20 projects). CZK 500m is ready to be spent. In 2022, for the first time, so-called mixed-use projects will be supported. Thus, the construction of municipal flats may be financed. This was announced by the CzechInvest (CI) agency, which helps municipalities with project preparations. In 2021, it consulted more than 60 projects with an investment value of over CZK 30bn. CzechInvest added that MPO must take into account e.g. energy savings and the use of renewable energy sources when selecting projects. ■

MZe: Farmers get CZK 831m in extra support

Friday, September 30 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The State Agricultural Intervention Fund (SZIF) has paid out 100% of a special CZK 831m subsidy to farmers. The Czech Ministry of Agriculture (MZe) added that 2,559 breeders of pigs, poultry and dairy cows and growers of potatoes and apples had received this support in a difficult situation. The objectives are to strengthen agriculture's self-sufficiency, ensure food for citizens, and support vulnerable sectors threatened by high input costs, such as increased prices of energy, fodders, and vehicle fuels. ■

MŽP to support energy-saving programmes with CZK 800m

Friday, September 30 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Minister of the Environment Anna Hubáčková (KDU-ČSL) has approved 200 projects for municipalities with subsidies totalling CZK 800m. The financial means will be used for energy savings in their buildings, better water management and electromobility development. The majority of the funding comes from the National Recovery Plan. In addition, Hubáčková specified that over 80 applicants had received a subsidy for purchasing an electric vehicle; apart from municipalities, other recipients included schools, hospitals and non-profit organisations. ■

AŽD to supply ETCS system to Leo Express for CZK 119.4m

Thursday, October 6 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Leo Express has concluded a contract with AŽD for the delivery and installation of the mobile part of the single European Train Control System (ETCS) for all five FLIRT electric train units. The value of the contract is CZK 119.4m. The work will start in March 2023 and will be completed by December 2024. The Czech carrier will thus comply with the conditions of the National Implementation Plan for ERTMS/ETCS of the Ministry of Transport, which stipulates that from January 1, 2025 railway operation will be exclusively on ETCS-equipped lines. ■

Pilulka expands to Hungary

Wednesday, October 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Pilulka Group, active in the Czech, Slovak and Romanian markets, is expanding to Hungary. Customers will find it there under the name Pilulka.hu. The company's ambition is to be number one among online pharmacies and chemists in Hungary and the best mobile pharmacy. ČIANEWS has already reported that because of the price policy of Czech distributors, Pilulka planned to import some items from Austria and Germany. ■

ÚOHS reviews Accolade Portfolio-Gelsenwasser deal

Wednesday, October 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Upon the proposal submitted by Accolade Portfolio I, the Office for the Protection of Competition (ÚOHS) has begun a simplified proceeding regarding the permission for a merger of competitors. As a result, the applicant should get the opportunity to gain direct and exclusive control of Gelsenwasser Beteiligungen of Germany and, through it, the companies Terea Cheb and KMS Kraslická městská společnost. The proposed merger occurs mainly in the central supplies of heat energy, supplies of drinking water, and services comprising wastewater drainage and treatment. ■

AK A&O provides Eurowag with consulting in partnership with JITpay

Friday, September 30 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Law firm Allen & Overy (AK A&O) advises W.A.G payment solutions plc (Eurowag). This pan-European integrated payment and mobility platform for the commercial road transport industry has entered into a strategic partnership with JITpay Group, a German payment service provider specializing in logistics. This move will allow Eurowag to expand its product portfolio to offer solutions for invoice discounting, digital invoicing and receivables management. As part of the strategic partnership, Eurowag acquired a minority stake in JITpay with the possibility of an increase. ■

AŽD gets 1st contract in Hungary, will install ECTS

Friday, September 30 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

AŽD Praha and Hungary's construction company R-KORD (a member of the V-Híd holding) have signed a contract for the supply of signalling equipment and the European signalling ETCS for the project Szeged – Röske – HU/SRB border in Hungary. AŽD, together with subsidiaries AŽD Slovakia and Projekt Signal in Hungary, will install ESA 44, a fully electronic station signalling equipment which will control traffic in both railway stations (Szeged-Rendező and Röske). The supply also includes integrated track signalling equipment, LED signal lamps, railroad crossings, and the supply and installation of the ETCS L1 system's stationary part worth EUR 5.7m in total. ■

For your notes

RESPECT targets insurance activities in Slovakia, Europe

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

RESPECT Czech Republic and RESPECT Slovak Republic have signed a new Strategic Partnership Agreement. It guarantees exclusive cooperation in the insurance sector in both countries. In order to simplify the structure of the group concentrating on corporate clients, mutual ownership interests were transferred. Zdeněk Reibl, CEO of RESPECT Czech Republic, added that the group is working on a joint sales and marketing policy to strengthen the brand position also in the European context under the RESPECT Group brand. ■

Developer Lekvi opens branches in Romania, Spain

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Lekvi Development, a developer and operator of retail parks in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, is opening new offices in Romania and Spain. Andrej Levin, a partner at Lekvi Development, said the company would develop two retail projects in both countries within three years and possibly additional retail units to complement the amenities. The branch in Romania will be headed by Jakub Ličák, a long-time resident of Bucharest, and the branch in Seville by Rafael Noriega. ■

FutureLife acquires Institut Marques, expands southward

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

FutureLife, backed by Hartenberg Holding and CVC Capital Partners, has announced the acquisition of Barcelona-based Institut Marques (IM). The European provider of assisted reproductive technology (IVF) services is thus entering the Spanish and Italian markets, with IM operating three clinics in Spain and two in Italy. FutureLife CEO and shareholder Matěj Stejskal said the acquisition continues the company's collaboration with top clinics in Europe with a focus on patients and their overall fertility treatment experience. FutureLife has more than 45 clinics in eight European countries that perform over 45,000 IVF cycles annually. ■

EAG acquired Polish platform SoftVig; targeting W Europe

Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Czech technology holding EAG from the PORTIVA group bought SoftVig, a Polish provider of DMS software for automotive. The holding informed about this, stating that the acquisition of the SoftVig platform will contribute to a significant increase in sales and profit of EAG, which expects an increase in turnover from CZK 800m to CZK 2bn this year. The transaction for hundreds of millions of CZK has moved EAG among the largest European suppliers of IT and software services for customers from car dealerships and used car dealerships. Thanks to the acquisition, the number of B2B customers of EAG services will increase by almost 50 % to 2,000. In the future, EAG expects organic growth and further expansion abroad. First, it plans to enter Austria, and later also other Western European markets. ■

Awake Mobility to analyse Škoda Group vehicles

Saturday, October 1 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Škoda Group has signed a memorandum with Munich-based AWAKE Mobility, a specialist in predictive maintenance. In the future, the company will analyse and optimise the Škoda Group's vehicles through artificial intelligence. Buses will thus report themselves that there was a malfunction or that it is time to visit the workshop. Furthermore, the Škoda Group wants to anticipate sudden malfunctions and additional unnecessary costs. ■

Ebury expands team, targets Slovakia, bets on Asia

Thursday, October 6 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Ebury, which specialises in hedging foreign exchange risk, managing currency accounts and trading in more than 130 global currencies, plans to double its headcount from the current 20 by the end of 2023. Trade with Asia is expected to drive growth. The company's chief commercial officer, Tomáš Kudla, said there is strong demand in the Czech Republic and Slovakia for securing and facilitating transactions with countries outside the eurozone, be it China or other Asian countries. The company is currently building a dedicated team for Slovakia in its Ostrava office. The company's personnel expansion is expected to take place mainly in Prague, where Vojtěch Brožík has become the head. ■

TRENDS, DIGITALISATION AND INNOVATION

EC to install quantum technology in 6 countries, incl. CR

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The European High-Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU) announced on 4 October 2022 the selection of six sites to host Europe's first quantum computers. The countries are the Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, France, Italy and Poland. The technologies will be integrated with existing supercomputers to form a wide pan-European network. The total planned investment exceeds EUR 100m, half of which will be provided by the EU and the other half by the 17 countries participating in the EuroHPC JU. Both academic researchers and industry will have access to the funds. This was announced by the European Commission (EC), adding that the new quantum computers will be available by H2 2023. ■

For your notes

HoppyGo's record summer, vehicle owners yield CZK 9.2m

Wednesday, October 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Within the vehicle-sharing platform HoppyGo, the yields of individual vehicle owners grew by 20% year on year in July and August. These months were also the best in the platform's history. It was also influenced by the average rental length, which grew by 17% to 4.9 days in the summer months compared to the year-long average. In total, owners in all three markets (Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland) where HoppyGo is present earned CZK 9.23m in the three summer months, which makes on average CZK 22,048 per owner. HoppyGo added that the entire group's turnover increased by 40% year on year from the beginning of the year until the end of August 2022. The summer's most popular vehicles were in the minivan category, specifically the VW Transporter model. ■

Solitea finalises Gesteem's acquisition, enhances BI

Wednesday, October 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Solitea, a supplier of accounting and ERP systems, has taken over Gesteem Society, a supplier of business intelligence (BI) solutions and data storage facilities. By acquiring the company present in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and the Netherlands, Solitea is strengthening its team and competencies in data analytics and expanding its customer base. Gesteem Society is still run by the original management. The transaction is subject to approval by the Office for the Protection of Competition. Its value is not public. ■

HARDWARIO starts IPO, wants to raise up to CZK 70m

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

HARDWARIO launched an IPO on October 4, 2022. The offer will run until October 18. Subsequently, the shares of the company, which operates in the field of Internet of Things (IoT), will be traded on the START market of the Prague Stock Exchange (BCPP). At the same time as the IPO was launched, the company introduced itself to investors during the Start Day on the BCPP. HARDWARIO announced that 2.87 million shares will be offered within the IPO. The price range for the orders has been set between CZK 17 and CZK 25 per share. HARDWARIO intends to raise new capital of up to CZK 70m through the IPO. ■

DEPO Ventures invested into Forloop.ai

Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The angel fund DEPO Ventures invested in the startup Forloop.ai, which received almost CZK 20 million from it and other investors. The fund informed about this, saying that the startup will use the funding to improve the product, grow the number of users and expand to the US. Forloop.ai provides a platform for automating work with external data such as data on the behavior of the target group, new trends or competition, thereby speeding up the work of data analysts and saving time and resources. ■

ŘLP ČR: First unsupervised drone flights in CR

Thursday, October 6 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The first approved flights of an unmanned aircraft outside the visual surveillance of a remotely piloted pilot in controlled airspace were successfully conducted at Brno-Tuřany Airport. Their aim was to demonstrate the operational, technical, economic and legislative possibilities of this type of drone operation in the current civil aviation system. The flights were part of the international project U-space4UAM - Urban Air Mobility in Europe as part of a series of mobility demonstrations for Smart Cities in several European Union countries. ■

NRB to buy up to 30% of Hardwario helping IoT companies

Thursday, October 6 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

National Development Investment, a subsidiary of the National Development Bank (NDB), will buy up to 30% of Hardwario's shares worth nearly CZK 15m. The initial public offering of new shares of the Internet of Things (IoT) company was launched on Tuesday, October 4, and will run until October 18, 2022. 2.87 million shares are being offered at a price of CZK 17-25 during the IPO. Subsequently, the shares will be traded on the START market of the Prague Stock Exchange (BSE). The first trading day is expected to be October 24, 2022. The analytical report for the IPO was prepared by Helgi Library, and LIFTIA is Hardwario's advisor for the START market listing. The technology company plans to use most of the funds raised to strengthen its sales and marketing efforts in building a global distribution network and to purchase critical materials. ■

ABB invests CZK 271m in development, has robotics centre

Wednesday, October 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In 2021, ABB started building a new production and development robotics centre at the Ostrava Airport Multimodal Park in Mošnov. The total investment in a currently functioning centre exceeded CZK 300m, resulting in approximately 120 skilled jobs. In addition, ABB has located its existing global centre for robot repairs and refurbishment. Last year, the company spent CZK 271.29m on research and development in the Czech Republic, according to the information contained in its annual report, which states that ABB posted a turnover of CZK 12.65bn, and its operating profit was CZK 999.08m. ■

For your notes

NEWS FROM SLOVAKIA

Interior ministers discussed illegal migration

Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The interior ministers of the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Austria, who held extraordinary talks in Bratislava on illegal migration through the Western Balkans, agreed that the aim is not to take measures inside Schengen, but at its external border, including the involvement of Frontex. The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic (MV) informed about this, stating that the Czech Republic, as the country holding the EU presidency, would like the European Commission to actively address this issue. The Minister of the Interior, Vít Rakušan (STAN), said that he called on European Commissioner Ylva Johansson to take a trip to the Western Balkans together, adding that if the influx of migrants cannot be reduced, only partial problems will still be solved in Schengen instead of the causes. ■

VUZ is authorised as designated DeBo body in Slovakia

Tuesday, October 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Railway Research Institute (VUZ), through its subsidiary VUZ Slovakia, has been authorised by the Slovak Ministry of Transport and Construction as the second official body to assess the conformity of railway system subsystems with national regulations (DeBo Designated Body). With this step, the entire VUZ Group has gained, according to its statement, a competitive advantage in the Central European region and has completed a comprehensive portfolio of NoBo, DeBo CZ/SK, AsBo, ISA, ECM certification, rail vehicle testing and dynamic component testing services. ■

Novota ART develops living with smart technologies in Via Lux in Barca

Wednesday, October 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

As part of the development of smart furniture with artificial intelligence and medical devices, Novota ART is developing housing for seniors with smart technologies in the Via Lux facility in Barca. The company received funds from Norwegian funds, and the Košice Region co-finances it with EUR 125,000. In total, more than EUR 2.4m are invested in the project. The technologies include the measurement of bodily functions during sleep or a medicine dispenser built into the back of the chair. In total, there are seven prototypes of intelligent furniture, three prototypes of robotic mechanisms and artificial intelligence with a functional connection to the medical center. ■

ORLEN opens two more sites in SR and plans to acquire 41 MOL stations

Friday, September 30 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Polish group ORLEN has opened two more gas stations in the west of Slovakia. With this, it increased the total number of its sites in this country to 26. By the end of 2022, it wants to expand its network to 50 locations. By acquiring another 41 gas stations from Hungarian MOL, ORLEN will be among the three largest retail gas station networks in Slovakia. ■

Coffee consumption in Slovakia up 8 percent

Monday, October 3 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Every inhabitant of Slovakia, regardless of age, consumed an average of 2.8 kg of coffee in 2021 (year-on-year increase of almost 8%). So they drank at least one cup of the drink a day. From the preliminary data of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic published in connection with the International Coffee Day, it follows that 45,100 tons of coffee were imported to Slovakia in 2021. (+20%). Most from Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Italy. Exports reached 24,900 t, which amounted to almost 121 million euros. ■

For your notes