

EU2022.CZ, ECONOMY, POLICY AND STRATEGY

For your notes

J. Sikel: Refineries in CR working at full capacity

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS

The outage of supplies via the Družba pipeline has not yet limited the output of Czech refineries, which are working at full capacity. Industry and Trade Minister Jozef Síkela (STAN) said this after oil started flowing through Družba again, but only to Slovakia and Hungary. The MOL Group, active in both countries, has paid a transit fee to Ukraine for Russia. In the Czech Republic, oil is processed by Unipetrol, which is owned by Poland's PKN Orlen. Mr. Síkela added that the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic (MPO) and the Polish side are now looking for a solution to resume supplies to the Czech Republic, adding that the state has strategic reserves for almost 90 days in case of an emergency. In addition, it will be possible to use part of the spare capacity of the TAL pipeline in the coming months. ■

SP: Government should involve all sectors in gas savingsWednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The voluntary commitment of the EU member states to reduce the consumption of natural gas by 15% means for the Czech Republic an effort to save about 1 billion m³ at the level of the entire Czech Republic. If it succeeds, then limiting supplies and thus production will be avoided. The Confederation of Industry and Transport of the Czech Republic (SP) informed that a number of other savings are prevented by the current legislation, which sets, among other things, minimum and average temperatures for the interior spaces of buildings. According to the Association, the task of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic and the government is to find other suitable measures and involve all sectors in voluntary savings. ■

Industrial production up 1.7 %Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Industrial production in June 2022 in the Czech Republic grew by 1.7 % y/y in real terms. It was up 0.5 % m/m. Veronika Doležalová, head of the industry statistics department of the Czech Statistical Office, said that while last June industrial companies were at the beginning of the chip crisis, this year the situation in the supply of chips and cable harnesses has improved, and car manufacturers in particular have caught up with the slowdown in production from previous months. The value of new orders at current prices in the monitored industries increased by 15.5 % year-on-year. According to the latest Eurostat data for May 2022, industrial production in the EU27 rose by 2.7 %. ■

Exports rose in price by 16.5% in June; import by 21%Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In June 2022, export prices increased by 16.5% y/y and import prices by 21.0%. The Czech Statistical Office informed about it. Terms of trade remained at 96.3%. In the case of exports, the biggest influence was the increase in the prices of mineral fuels by 158.3%, especially electricity, oil products, and gas). From the point of view of import, the price increase of mineral fuels by 134.7% was crucial. In a month-on-month comparison, export prices rose by 0.8% and import prices by 1.4%. Terms of trade fell to 99.4% (101.0% in May). ■

Consumer prices grow by 17.5%Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Consumer prices in the Czech Republic increased by 17.5% y/y in July 2022, 0.3pp higher than in June. They rose by 1.3% m/m, the Czech Statistical Office reported. Year-on-year, prices of goods rose by 20.0% in aggregate and prices of services by 14.0%. The inflation rate, expressed as the increase in the average consumer price index over the last 12 months compared to the average of the previous year, was 10.6% in July. According to Eurostat data, the year-on-year change in the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices in the EU27 was 9.6% in June. ■

Foreign trade balance deficit reached CZK 12.1bnMonday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The balance of foreign trade in goods at current prices ended in June 2022 with a deficit of CZK 12.1bn, an increase of 3.4 % year-on-year. This follows from the preliminary data of the Czech Statistical Office. The Czech Republic's trade balance with EU states improved by CZK 20.0bn. The trade deficit with countries outside the European Union deepened by CZK 23.0bn. Domestic exports rose year-on-year by 15.3 % to CZK 394.2bn and imports by 15.9 % to CZK 406.3bn. In January-June 2022, the trade balance showed a deficit of CZK 76.0bn, while in the same period of 2021 it ended with a surplus of CZK 76.2bn. ■

ÚP: Unemployment grew m/m to 3.3 %Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Labor Office of the Czech Republic (ÚP) registered a total of 240,706 job applicants as of July 31, 2022, 9,397 more than in the previous month and 31,472 fewer than last year. A total of 73,908 citizens of Ukraine with temporary protection were working in the territory of the Czech Republic. The share of unemployed persons increased by 0.2 percentage points month-on-month to 3.3 %. Compared to July 2021, it was lower by 0.4 pp. According to the latest Eurostat data, the unemployment rate for June was the lowest in the entire EU, at 2.4 %. The average of the European Union states is 5.9 %. ■

D&B: Foreigners bought 8 % more Czech firms

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Foreign entrepreneurs bought 1,311 Czech companies in 1H 2022. This is an increase of almost 8 % y/y and at the same time it is the largest number in the last three years. Data published by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B). The volume of capital in the share capital of domestic entities, which was controlled by foreign owners in the first six months of 2022, exceeded CZK 12.8bn. The largest number of companies were bought by Ukrainians, namely 329 companies, which is 75 more year-on-year. Slovaks acquired 271 entities (-42). The Hungarians follow at a distance with 96 companies and the Poles with 88, they, however, bought the most companies in the last four years. ■

Hotel attendance increased by 304%

Tuesday, August 9 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The number of guests who stayed in mass accommodation facilities in 2Q 2022 reached 5 million, of which 3.1 million were domestic and 1.9 million from abroad. The number of overnight stays increased by 190% y/y to 12 million nights. The data was published by the Czech Statistical Office. The hotel segment, which accounted for 70% of all guests, saw an increase in total arrivals to 3.5 million (up 304.2%). Arrivals to guest houses represented 14% of the visitor volume with a year-on-year increase of 143.3%. Apart from Prague, the South Moravian and South Bohemian regions were traditionally the most visited. Most of the foreign guests were from Germany. ■

No. of completed flats up 4.7 % to 2,368

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In June 2022, construction production in the Czech Republic increased by 0.8 % y/y in real terms. Building authorities issued 7,411 building permits, down 10.0 %. The Czech Statistical Office informed about it. The indicative value of these buildings reached CZK 51.4bn (+14.0 %). The number of commenced flats fell 31.6 % to 3,018 units. The number of completed flats increased by 4.7 % to 2,368. According to Eurostat data, construction output in the EU27 increased by 3.8 % y/y in May 2022. ■

PwC: 2,000 electric cars registered in CR

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The number of registrations of purely electric cars in the Czech Republic in 1H 2022 was 2,000 (less than 2% of the market). PwC partner Pavel Štefek commented on the results of the PwC Electric Vehicle Sales Review that even limited subsidies for company cars are not helping yet. Czech customers are among the most conservative in Europe. New registrations of electric cars of all types in the markets of Western Europe increased by 4% y/y to 2.05 million. PwC expects that the number of purely electric cars globally will increase from the current 7 to approximately 26.5 million in the next five years. Plug-in hybrids will see the least increase in interest. There are about 2.8 million of them now, and in five years there will be less than 5 million. In total, there should be 58 million hybrid and electric cars in the world in five years. ■

LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Senate approves ban on single-use plastics in CR

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Senators approve a law banning single-use plastics in the Czech Republic. After President Miloš Zeman signs it, it should come into force in mid-autumn 2022. Environment Minister Anna Hubáčková (KDU-ČSL) said that the law will save millions of plastic products per year, adding that the law also helps municipalities, which will be entitled to a contribution to the cleaning of public spaces. The bill on limiting the impact of selected plastic products transposes the European directive on single-use plastics into Czech law. ■

SUBSIDIES, INVESTMENTS, EU MARKET

Energy consumption at ČEZ stands up 1/3 in 1H

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

ČEZ commissioned more than 50 stands in 1H 2022. It delivered 2.1 million kWh to its network of public charging stations, which is almost 500,000 more y/y. 125,930 vehicles were charged at the stands and the charging volume increased by a third. Roughly half of the 448 stands were created thanks to the European grant Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) and OP Transport; ČEZ built the rest using its own funds. It can charge almost 900 vehicles in the entire network at one time. ČEZ continues the construction of ultra-fast stands and locations enabling the recharging of six or more cars. It plans to build 800 stands by 2025. For the year 2022, it expects to significantly exceed 4 million kWh of energy consumed. ■

Photon Energy increases revenue estimate to CZK 2.1bn

Thursday, August 11 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In the second quarter of 2022, Photon Energy more than doubled its revenue year on year to CZK 565m (up 135.7%) and posted record-high EBITDA of CZK 197m (up 108.3%). In the first half of 2022, revenue grew 124.4% to CZK 788m, and EBITDA increased by 146.2% to CZK 247m. General director Georg Hotar said that it was mostly the transfer of 83% of power installations from fixed buyout prices to direct sale of electricity for market prices that contributed to the net profit of CZK 13m. Based on the outlook for the energy market and with regard to the absence of unforeseen events, Photon Energy has increased its estimate of 2022 revenue from CZK 1.6bn to CZK 2.1bn and of EBITDA from CZK 438m to CZK 584m. Currently, the company realises large photovoltaic installation projects with a total capacity exceeding 825 MWp in its key markets in Central and Eastern Europe and Australia. ■

For your notes

Avast raises revenues to USD 472m in 1H22

Tuesday, August 9 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Avast Software Group reported adjusted revenue of USD 472.0m for 1H 2022. This represents organic growth of 2.7% y/y and 0.2% at current exchange rates. Adjusted EBITDA declined by 7.6% to USD 249.7m. Adjusted EBITDA margin was 52.9%. The 2021 dividend was 16 cents per share. The proposed interim dividend payable in August 2022 is 4.8 cents per share. Avast has suspended new business and renewals of existing business in Russia and Belarus due to the conflict in Ukraine, among other reasons. CEO Ondřej Vlček added that the business in the consumer and SME segments contributed USD 446.7m and USD 25.3m to total revenue, respectively. Adjusted EBITDA margin was impacted by high investments in customer acquisition and retention, the Digital Trust Services (DTS) segment and the acquisition of Canadian company SecureKey. ■

ORLEN Group posted PLN 58bn in revenues

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

ORLEN Group ended 2Q 2022 with revenues of PLN 58bn and a net profit of PLN 3.7bn. Almost half were sales on foreign markets. At the end of the monitored period, its retail network consisted of 2,885 gas stations, which is 31 more year-on-year. As many as 2,309 of them have non-fuel StopCafe/Star Connect stores, including 326 in the Czech Republic and 16 in the Slovak Republic. Despite the war in Ukraine, the group maintained its share of the fuel markets in Poland, the Czech Republic and Lithuania. As a result of reduced consumption of Russian oil and rising gas prices, the consolidated result for 1H 2022 was affected by losses of PLN 2.9bn. ■

PFNonwovens Czech to further invest in technology

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The net turnover of PFNonwovens Czech for 2021 increased year-on-year from CZK 5.90 to 9.98 billion. Profit after taxation reached CZK 189.12 million. In the annual report, the manufacturer of non-woven textiles for disposable hygiene products stated, among other things, that it wants to continue investing in technologically advanced production capacities. It also plans to monitor investment opportunities outside the Czech Republic that could lead to either the acquisition or the opening of production capacities in other territories. ■

ŠKODA AUTO delivered 61,000 OCTAVIA vehicles

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In 1H 2022, ŠKODA AUTO delivered a total of 61,000 OCTAVIA vehicles to customers, down 49.5 % y/y. KODIAQ deliveries reached 50,600 units (-21.8 %) and KAMIQ 47,200 units (-36.0 %). The automaker also recorded a drop in deliveries of FABIA cars by 19.0 % to 45,900, KAROQ by 43.1 % to 43,000, and SUPERB by 17.5 % to 33,100. On the other hand, ENYAQ models showed year-on-year growth of 52.2 % and the brand delivered a total of 22,200 of these. SCALA vehicle deliveries totalled 21,300, KUSHAQ 13,500, RAPID 12,300 and SLAVIA 10,300. ■

Lasselsberger wants to develop exports

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Lasselsberger intends to increase the share of sales of household ceramics in 2022. It expects the development of new business opportunities in Western Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. It also wants to strengthen the newly emerging tiling division. This stems from the consolidated annual report of the manufacturer of ceramic tiles and floor tiles for the year 2021. Net turnover increased year-on-year to CZK 4.88bn from CZK 4.56bn, and operating profit to CZK 372.20m from CZK 333.51m. At the Rako 3 plant, the company completed, among other things, the increase in the capacity of the mass preparation plant and put into operation the new F6 line, furnace, and spray dryer. In total, it invested CZK 557.60m. It had to deal with a significant increase in the price of inputs, including energy, and a lack of materials due to the pandemic. ■

RONAL CR supplies 5m wheels/year to European automakers

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

RONAL CR currently supplies aluminum car wheels to major car manufacturers in Europe, in a volume of approximately 5 million wheels per year. This is according to the annual reports published in the commercial register, with the fact that for the economic period ending on March 31, 2022, the company reported a turnover of CZK 4.43 billion. RONAL CR is part of the Swiss RONAL Group, which during this period achieved a turnover of 1 billion euros. ■

KBC's net profit in CR grows to EUR 443m

Thursday, August 11 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In the first half of 2022, the KBC financial group posted a net profit of EUR 443m in the Czech Republic, compared to EUR 291m in the first half of 2021. In the second quarter alone, profit increased from EUR 168m to EUR 237m. The total number of client loans without reverse repo operations amounted to EUR 34.16bn, of which mortgage loans totalled EUR 18.91bn. The net profit of the entire group for the first six months of 2022 amounted to EUR 1.26bn. In the quarterly report, CEO Johan Thijs also said that because of the war in Ukraine, the group had further increased the allotted reserve for geopolitical and newly emerging risks to EUR 268m. ■

OT raises number of flights from Prague to Warsaw

Tuesday, August 9 | ČIANEWS

LOT Polish Airlines is increasing the number of flights between Prague and Warsaw. From September 1, 2022, it is adding three new flights on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. The connection between Václav Havel Airport Prague and the Polish city will thus operate up to five times a day on some days. ■

For your notes

ŠKODA AUTO delivers 180,500 cars to Western Europe

Tuesday, August 9 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

ŠKODA AUTO delivered 180,500 vehicles to customers in Western Europe in 1H 2022, down 24.1% y/y. Deliveries in Central Europe fell by 28.4% to 69,800 cars. In the Czech domestic market, the carmaker delivered 35,500 vehicles (-19.4%). In Eastern Europe, excluding Russia, ŠKODA AUTO delivered 15,200 vehicles (-30.1%). In Russia, deliveries fell by 72.3%. The company has not delivered any vehicles to customers in the local market since March 3. In Turkey, deliveries fell by 44.4% to 9,800 cars and in China by 43.9% to 24,700. In India, on the other hand, deliveries rose 428.7% to 25,900 cars. ■

ÚOHS: CSW & Ligelta can jointly control Vasco

Thursday, August 11 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Office for the Protection of Competition (ÚOHS) has permitted competitors CSW Holding and Ligelta Holdings to acquire joint control over Vasco, računalniški inženiring. The decision issued within a simplified proceeding has already entered into effect. The acquired firm is active in Slovenia mainly in the areas of selling software products for accounting, administration of human resources, support of retail and wholesale, document archiving and web-based and mobile applications. ■

ČD can use more locomotives Taurus in Austria

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Four more 1216 Taurus locomotives of ČD from the Bohumín depot can go to Austria. The locomotives have undergone repairs and other necessary processes after being purchased from a foreign carrier so that they can also run on interstate lines. These locomotives are equipped with the modern European Train Control System (ETCS) and are now the fastest machines in the ČD fleet. In regular operation, they can run at speeds of up to 230 km/h. ■

Prague approved competition for completion of Victory Square

Tuesday, August 9 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The capital city of Prague and the district of Prague 6 have approved the announcement of an international architectural competition for the completion of the so-called 4th quadrant of Victory Square. After 100 years since the design of the urban structure of Dejvice, the third largest square in Prague will be completed. The possible shape of the completion will be known in May 2023. The investor is Fourth Quadrant, which is co-owned by the Czech real estate companies Penta Real Estate, Sekyra Group and Kaprain. Part of the land also belongs to the University of Chemistry and Technology, which plans to place its own microbrewery here. ■

DRFG part of developer projects in CR, Poland

Sunday, August 7 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The DRFG Group is currently participating in several developer projects, for instance, the Complex City Olomouc multi-purpose site. Other projects are Residence Spojovací in Prague-Vysočany, a project of energy-saving family houses near the golf course in Kunětická hora, and an investment partnership in Residence Na Mariánské cestě in Brandýs nad Labem in collaboration with Domoplan. DRFG has also completed the construction of a logistics park in Týniště nad Orlicí and is currently participating in the construction of several logistics sites in Poland. ■

Mazda sold 233,000 cars, expects increase of 8%

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Mazda Motor Corporation (Mazda) sold a total of 233,000 vehicles worldwide between April 1 and June 30, 2022. Despite a temporary decline in retail and wholesale volumes due to a lack of supply of auto parts, demand remains strong and Mazda expects to return to normal production in the period ahead. For the full fiscal year, the Japanese automaker forecasts global sales of 1.3 million vehicles, which would be an 8% y/y increase. ■

CTP appoints new CFO and Head of Research

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

European real estate developer CTP N.V. appointed Patrick Zehetmayr to the position of Chief Financial Officer (CFO). He came from Erste Group Bank in Vienna, where he worked as head of the commercial real estate division. The owner and manager of the industrial and logistics parks further entrusted Dirk Sosef with the position of Head of Research. He was previously head of research and strategy at Prologis Europe. ■

D. Surovcová, J. Bělina took up management positions in Trammell Crow

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Trammell Crow Company (TCC), a global developer and investor in the field of commercial real estate, is expanding its team in the Czech Republic with Dominika Surovcová and Jaroslav Bělina. D. Surovcová will hold the post of sales director for the Czech Republic and will be responsible for securing land for potential acquisition, developing business opportunities, creating business relationships with land owners, consultants, tenants and overseeing the commercial side of TCC projects. J. Bělina starts as the new director of construction for the domestic market. He will be responsible for the creation and expansion of the set of suppliers, for project and cost management as well as for the technical part of the projects. ■

For your notes

Imports of prosecco to CR rose by 27%

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Imports of prosecco to the Czech Republic increased by 27% y/y to 8.7 million bottles in 2021. This is according to the data of the association of producers of prosecco DOC Consortium - Valori Italia. Each Czech adult drinks an average of one bottle with a volume of 0.75 liters per year. The Czech Republic thus ranks 13th in the list of prosecco importing countries. Sales of the Mionetto Prosecco brand, which is distributed domestically by Bohemia Sekt, increased by 36% last year and exceeded 1 million bottles. Worldwide, excluding Italy, over 546 million bottles of sparkling wine were sold. Great Britain (18.1%), the USA (17.4%), and Germany (6.7%) have the largest share. ■

OLK wants to get up to 32 new ambulances

Monday, August 8 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Olomouc Region (OLK) is preparing a grant application, the aim of which is to obtain funds for 25 to 32 modern rescue vehicles. Olomouc Region councillor Zdeňka Dvořáková Kocourková (Pirates) stated that the total estimated cost of purchasing ambulances is CZK 115 million and the region will seek 90% of the financial resources from the integrated operational program and from the state. The region should gradually acquire rescue vehicles in 2023 and 2024. ■

PAK: Megatech production closure to jeopardise employment

Thursday, August 4 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Megatech Industries Hlinsko, a manufacturer of plastic parts for the automotive industry, plans to completely cease production in Hlinsko at the end of 2023 and move it to Brno. The Pardubice Region (PAK) informed that ca. 180 people work at the plant. Regional governor Martin Netolický (3PK) therefore wants to negotiate with the company's management and with the German ambassador in the Czech Republic over the risks to employment in the region. Josef Středula, the chairman of the Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions, added that he would approach CzechInvest with a request for cooperation in finding a new employer for the region. ■

TRENDS, DIGITALISATION AND INNOVATION

ČMIS still grows, launches Managed SQL service

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The hosting technology company ČMIS is launching a new Managed SQL service and, thanks to growth in recent years, is continuing to recruit staff and plans to achieve a turnover of CZK 110m. In fiscal year 2021, it achieved a turnover of CZK 96m, doubling year-on-year. CEO and founder of ČMIS Václav Svátek said the company already has over 240 clients, with Mall.cz, Crocodile and Rohlík.cz newly added. ČMIS is also newly involved in the modernisation of ČEZ Distribuce's energy network and in a project for the Czech EU Presidency, in which it provides secure hosting for the journalists' accreditation system. ■

SAP: Cloud solutions used by 77% of companies

Friday, August 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

At least one cloud-based solution in the Czech Republic is used by 77% of enterprises. A report by the software company SAP, based on a survey by the Kantar agency, revealed that Czech companies use cloud systems on average in six different areas of their business. In 2023, companies plan to invest an average of 30% of their IT budgets in the cloud. Two thirds of the respondents said they want to increase investments in the future. Compared to the countries of the CEE region, the Czech Republic excels in data management and processing. More than half of the companies already have a cloud solution, and another 27% are considering its use in the next two years. ■

NEWS FROM SLOVAKIA

MH SR to distribute EUR 20m for restoring biogas stations

Friday, August 5 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

The Slovak Ministry of Economy (MH SR) has announced another call from the Recovery Plan, which envisages the distribution of EUR 20m for modernizing and transforming biogas stations. The maximum amount of contribution is EUR 1m-EUR 1.5m, depending on the project type. The subsidy will focus on the restoration of already existing biogas stations producing electricity from biogas or the transformation of stations to biomethane. ■

MF SR: Funding from EU exceeded EUR 7.9bn

Tuesday, August 9 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

As of July 31, 2022, the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic (MF SR) records the drawdown of subsidies at the level of 54.51%, i.e. EUR 7.91bn out of EUR 14.50bn, from the total commitment of 10 operational programs in the period 2014 to 2020. Based on the status of declared expenditures, the milestone in the sense of the N+3 rule in the amount of EUR 1.77bn for 2022 was met for six operational programs. ■

For your notes

Slovakia's foreign trade reported deficit of EUR 78.4m

Tuesday, August 9 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Slovak foreign trade ended with a deficit of EUR 78.4m in June 2022. Exports of goods for 1H 2022 increased by 13.4% y/y and reached a value of EUR 50.1bn. Imports increased by 22.0% to EUR 51.6bn. The balance was passive in the amount of EUR 1.5bn. In the same period of 2021, it achieved a positive result in the volume of more than EUR 1.9bn. The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic also reported that exports to EU member states increased by 16.4% and imports by 15.5%. ■

Number of guests staying in SR in June increased 71%

Thursday, August 11 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

In June 2022, the total number of visitors to accommodation facilities in Slovakia increased by 71% y/y to 491,000 persons. Compared to the pre-pandemic year 2019, the number of visitors is still almost one fifth lower. Guests spent 1.2m nights in accommodation facilities. The Slovak Statistical Office stated that the number of foreign visitors increased 3.3 times to 157,000. For the entire H1 2022, 1.9m visitors stayed in tourism facilities, including 589,000 foreigners. Guests spent almost 5m nights there. ■

Deloitte: Slovaks need 13 annual salaries to buy apartment

Wednesday, August 10 | ČIANEWS | [Information Source](#)

Slovaks need up to 12.8 gross annual wages to buy a new apartment with an area of 70 m2, which is two years more. This was shown by Deloitte's Property index. After the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic is the second least accessible European country in terms of the possibility of owning a home. The price of a new apartment in SR is EUR 2,650/m2. When comparing average monthly rent prices, Bratislava is the second most expensive among Central European cities (EUR 11.6/m2). New apartments are the most expensive in the United Kingdom (EUR 4,905/m2), the cheapest in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUR 974/m2). The most expensive city is Paris (EUR 13,462/m2), the cheapest of the 68 monitored European cities is Bulgaria's Varna (EUR 885/m2). ■

For your notes

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of horizontal lines.