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PRESS RELEASE

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HAVEL & PARTNERS donates CZK 100,000 to the Krtek Children's Oncology Endowment Fund

At the Lawyer of the Year 2019 award ceremony, HAVEL & PARTNERS, the largest Czech-Slovak law firm, handed over a cheque for CZK 100,000 to the Krtek Children's Oncology Endowment Fund (*Nadační fond dětské onkologie Krtek*), a charity financially supported by the law firm since 2015. Assisting physicians and healthcare professionals in the Children's Oncology Clinic at the Brno University Hospital, the fund aims in particular to raise the quality of care and comfort of children staying at the hospital, providing follow-up care over the entire duration of treatment and helping children and their families cope with the consequences.

"If standard treatment covered by health insurance companies does not work, the child is given an additional opportunity—thanks to our regular donors—to receive a customised diagnosis and follow-up care tailored to the little patient. Unfortunately, the additional treatment is not paid by the state. Our endowment fund can, however, use our partners' and donors' contributions to cover the costs, and that is the purpose the money from HAVEL & PARTNERS will serve," says Professor Jaroslav Štěřba, chairman of the administrative board of the Krtek Fund and Head of the Children's Oncology Clinic at the Brno University Hospital.

"It has become a tradition that we hand over a cheque to a charity at the Lawyer of the Year ceremony. Over the past few years, we have asked all colleagues to select a project to support and a clear majority of them voted for Krtek this year. Its team headed by Professor Štěřba does a really good job, which we admire and respect very much," says Veronika Dvořáková, head of marketing and a partner at HAVEL & PARTNERS.

Not only does the law firm provide financial support but also free legal assistance to charitable organisations and projects. Last year, the firm provided more than 650 hours of pro bono work, among many other projects, to Nadace Krása pomoci (*Beauty of Help Foundation*), Nadační Fond AutTalk Kateřiny Sokolové (*Kateřina Sokolová's AutTalk Endowment Fund*), Nadační fond Českého rozhlasu Světluška (*Světluška Czech Radio Endowment Fund*), Spolek/Fond na obranu nespravedlivě stíhaných (*Association/Fund for the Defence of the Unjustly Prosecuted*), the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague and the Czech Technical University in Prague.

As part of its CSR activities, HAVEL & PARTNERS supports its staff participating in charity runs and sales, providing advisory to children from children's homes, organising fundraising breakfasts or campaigns for charities, etc. The law firm has also listed charities and sheltered workshops as its regular suppliers of goods and services.

HAVEL & PARTNERS, attorneys-at-law, with offices in Prague, Brno, Bratislava, Pilsen, Olomouc, and Ostrava, has a team of 220 lawyers, approx. 150 associates and 500 employees in total, including employees of the affiliated debt collection agency Cash Collectors, and is the largest independent law firm in Central Europe. Our clients include large international companies, leading Czech and Slovak firms, including strategic state-owned companies and public sector authorities, as well as medium-size businesses, individual entrepreneurs, and investors. We advise approximately 100 of the Fortune 500 companies, and almost 50 of the Czech Top 100 companies. HAVEL & PARTNERS currently provides its services to more than 1,500 clients. We have the most comprehensive international support available to both Czech and Slovak law firms. We provide legal advice in 12 world languages in more than 80 countries around the globe. Up to 70% of the transactions we deal with involve an international aspect. We closely cooperate with leading international law firms in Europe, Asia, North America, Africa, and Australia. Thus, our clients have access to international and local know-how and expertise through more than 30,000 lawyers in nearly 160 countries. HAVEL & PARTNERS is the most successful law firm, providing the most comprehensive legal services in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, based on the total number of all nominations and awards in all years of the Law Firm of the Year awards. The firm has become the absolute winner of this competition three times in the last five years, receiving the main award Domestic Law Firm of the Year in the Czech Republic (2015, 2017, 2018) and ranking as one of the most recommended law firms in all categories of law. HAVEL & PARTNERS is also a three-time winner of the Law Firm of the Year award for Best Client Services (2015, 2016, 2019). HAVEL & PARTNERS has repeatedly been named the Best Law Firm in the Czech Republic by the international rating agency Who's Who Legal (2018, 2019) and was also named the Best Law Firm of the Year in the Czech Republic as part of the Global Awards announced by Corporate LiveWire (2018). The firm was named the Best Law Firm in the Czech Republic in the M&A category based on the annual International Advisory Experts awards (2018, 2019) and the Law Firm of the Year competition (2019). In Slovakia, HAVEL & PARTNERS won the prestigious global M&A Today Awards six times in a row (2013–2018) and was ranked No. 1 in the same category in Lawyer International Legal 100 (2017, 2018). Prestigious international rating agencies EMIS DealWatch and Mergermarket have ranked HAVEL & PARTNERS among the leading law firms by the number of transactions completed in the entire CEE region since 2009. Based on the annual awards of the Acquisition International magazine, HAVEL & PARTNERS was the Law Firm of the Year 2019 in the M&A category in the CEE region.

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