

Florentinum, Reception A
Na Florenci 2116/15, 110 00 Prague 1, Czech Republic
Tel.: +420 255 000 111

Titanium Business Complex
Nové sady 996/25, 602 00 Brno, Czech Republic
Tel.: +420 545 423 420

Zuckermandel Centre
Žižkova 7803/9, 811 02 Bratislava, Slovak Republic
Tel.: +421 232 113 900

PRESS RELEASE

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HAVEL & PARTNERS' IP team defends its ranking in the international league chart of the World Trademark Review 1000

HAVEL & PARTNERS and three of the firm's lawyers have been included in the reputable international research directory World Trademark Review 1000 for the second time in a row. This chart monitors major IP law firms and individual practitioners in more than 80 countries worldwide. The firm's partners Robert Nešpůrek and Ivan Rámeš and senior associate Tereza Hrabáková are again cited by the publication among the best IP advisory experts.

Ivan Rámeš, the firm's IP practice group head and one of the awarded practitioners said in this connection: *"We are glad that also in 2020 our law firm and its lawyers remain in the most prestigious group of IP experts. This, in our opinion, confirms the high quality of our consistent work in the field of IP and trademarks. This achievement walks hand in hand with the continuous expansion of our team, which would not be possible without satisfied clients and a growing number of interesting matters we deal with not only in the Czech Republic but also internationally. We are happy about the ever-increasing amount of IP work, which is not only thanks to our clients but also because of consistently built cooperation with international law firms."*

HAVEL & PARTNERS' IP practice group consists of seventeen experienced lawyers making it the largest expert advisory team in this field on the Czech and Slovak markets. Its clients include local companies expanding abroad, major global corporations, entrepreneurs fighting against counterfeiting and also promising technological start-ups dealing with issues of legal protection for innovative ideas. The firm provides its clients with comprehensive services offering protection of IP rights, copyright advice, portfolio management for industrial rights or advice on unfair competition, domain disputes and e-commerce.

None of these achievements would be possible without close cooperation with the firm's experts in other related practice areas such as competition, corporate, consumer and marketing law and tax advice. This comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach allows HAVEL & PARTNERS to provide

their clients with everything needed for effective IP protection from simple tasks such as registration of industrial rights and enforcement to strategic IP advice, including representation in administrative and judicial proceedings.

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 annual awards of the Acquisition International magazine, HAVEL & PARTNERS has become the Law Firm of the Year 2019 in the M&A category in the CEE region.

Contacts:

HAVEL & PARTNERS s.r.o., attorneys-at-law: Na Florenci 2116/15, 110 00 Prague 1, www.havelpartners.cz
Veronika Dvořáková, e-mail: veronika.dvorakova@havelpartners.cz, phone: +420 737 247 196