



PRESS RELEASE

The University of Economics, Prague and Microsoft strengthen their cooperation

The University of Economics, Prague (VŠE) and Microsoft have signed an agreement on cooperation for the next academic year. Microsoft has been one of VŠE's important partners since 2012. The company helps the school keep up with modern technology in teaching and implement a comprehensive project to unify communications via Office 365. Microsoft also helps the school finance student projects and services for disabled students.

Prague, 28 August 2014

Prof. Hana Machková, Rector of the University of Economics, Prague (VŠE) and Biljana Weber, Country General Manager Czech Republic at Microsoft, signed an Education Alliance Agreement on 27 August 2014. The two women, in positions that are usually occupied by men, agreed that education and technology are increasingly connected areas. Therefore, it is advantageous for both parties to acquire strategic partners.

"At this point, the cooperation with Microsoft during the extension of the Office 365 solution to all parts of the university is essential for us," pointed out Prof. Hana Machková. *"So far, the faculties of VŠE have used different systems, which is not possible for the modern school. The Office 365 solution was also chosen because Microsoft is our partner and our cooperation with this company is very good at various levels,"* added the rector.

Office 365, a solution for sharing and storing documents, and secure communication between the school and students, was used as a pilot solution in the Faculty of International Relations. Currently, Office 365 is also being extended to other faculties and departments of VŠE. Microsoft provides it free for students and for the staff as well.

In addition to providing access to programs and tools that support quality education with the latest trends in ICT, another component of the Education Alliance Agreement is also cooperation with Microsoft for lectures on specific topics (Human Resources, Management, Marketing, Public Relations, ICT Development, etc.) Microsoft works closely especially with the Faculty of Informatics and Statistics. The company will also help VŠE finance several student organizations (Honors Academia, Buddy System) and the Center for Handicapped Students.

"The University of Economics, Prague is one of the leading universities in the Czech Republic and we greatly appreciate the cooperation with the university. In the Education Alliance Agreement, we continue in ongoing projects and we also bring new and attractive forms of cooperation aimed at promoting education. Our priority is to enable students and teachers to work with the latest technologies in their everyday practice. But our cooperation is not limited



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to technical solutions; the goal is to introduce Microsoft as an attractive employer and leader of IT. For graduates, we offer among other programs Microsoft Academy College Hires (MACH), which is aimed at talented students, and we believe that the graduates of VŠE are such talented students,” added Biljana Weber.

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The University of Economics, Prague (Vysoká škola ekonomická v Praze) is the leading university in the field of management and economics in the Czech Republic. The University of Economics, Prague is composed of more than 20,000 students and has six faculties – five in Prague and one in Jindřichův Hradec in South Bohemia. These include: the Faculty of Finance and Accounting, the Faculty of International Relations, the Faculty of Business Administration, the Faculty of Statistics and Informatics and the Faculty of Economics and Public Administration. The faculty based in Jindřichův Hradec is specialized in management. Graduates of the University of Economics, Prague occupy responsible positions in the private as well as in the public sector. Most of them are employed in the sectors of industry and services, trade, marketing, banking, public administration, accounting, audit, tourism and the field of information technology. Many significant Czech and foreign economists have obtained the University's honoris causa title; for example, the Nobel Prize winner Prof. Robert A. Mundell, Prof. Milton Friedman and Prof. Gary S. Becker. More information at <http://www.vse.cz/index-en.php>.

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