



PRESS RELEASE

The University of Economics, Prague and Škoda Auto, a.s., have signed a Long-term Partnership Agreement

Bohdan Wojnar, a member of the board of Škoda Auto, a.s. and the Academic Board of the University of Economics, Prague (VŠE), represented by the Rector of the VŠE: Professor Hana Machková, have signed a Partnership Agreement, which will remain in force for another 5 years. The Agreement's main provisions cover the continuation of the already existing cooperation within the CEMS alliance, where Škoda Auto, a.s. is a partner, as well as the ongoing support for the xPort entrepreneur accelerator.

Prague, 25 May 2017

Cooperation between the University of Economics, Prague and Škoda Auto, a.s., has boomed since 2011, and has many forms and benefits. Since 2011, the main joint project undertaken within the framework of this cooperation is the CEMS Alliance. This Alliance includes over 30 prestigious business schools and 70 corporate partners from all over the world. Both Prof. Machková and Mr Wojnar are members of the Strategic board of this Alliance. Furthermore, Škoda Auto, a.s. experts lead lectures at the VŠE, while VŠE students can do internships at the corporation. Both institutions organize seminars dealing with strategic topics which concern the automotive industry. Students from VŠE partner universities also visit the factory in Mladá Boleslav, as well as attending presentations laying out the company's strategy. "The long-lasting relationship between ŠKODA AUTO, a.s., and the University of Economics, Prague is very valuable to us. Students and graduates from the university often work in our company as interns, on trainee programs, or as key strategic or managerial employees. This ongoing cooperation is a cornerstone of our good relations and we are glad that we are building upon that by signing this Agreement today." said Mr Wojnar.

The Rector of the University of Economics, Prague, Professor Hana Machková, pointed out the extraordinary benefits arising from the VŠE's membership in CEMS. "I appreciate the fact that we have signed this five year Agreement. The VŠE, thanks to it, gains financial security necessary for its continuing membership in the CEMS Alliance, which includes among its members some of the best business schools in the world. Thanks to our membership of CEMS, we receive the most up to date findings from the field of modern management, and our students are therefore able to study in 29 countries around the globe. Our membership of CEMS is also critical for receiving international accreditation." Professor Machková also appreciates the fact that Škoda



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Auto, a.s., already cooperates with the VŠE under an existing Research Agreement. This Agreement includes, for example, a car sharing project, which is being realized in cooperation with the Czech Technical University and the Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague. Moreover, she pointed out the fact that Škoda Auto, a.s. employs a lot of the VŠE's graduates.

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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 16,700 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/english>.

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