

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY

PART OF THE **THE FESTIVAL OF FUTURE**

September 10-12 | 2024

After three days brimming with inspiration and knowledge, the Festival of Future culminated with a well-deserved birthday celebration. Spread across six stages, the festival covered topics ranging from DIGITAL, REGION, HEALTH, ESG, and TALENT, along with nine 'Topical Focus Events' and five 'Festival Specials'—an extraordinary agenda that energized and enlightened everyone involved.

The Festival of Future was the largest and most ambitious event in AmCham Slovakia's history, and it embodied a core message: honoring the past by embracing the future. Every day of the festival reinforced this idea, as participants exchanged ideas and explored the innovations shaping tomorrow. These three days were not just a celebration, but a springboard of inspiration, new visions, and renewed energy to help shape the future we aspire to create.

Despite forecasts of heavy rain and strong winds, over three hundred guests attended this unforgettable event, underscoring their appreciation for AmCham

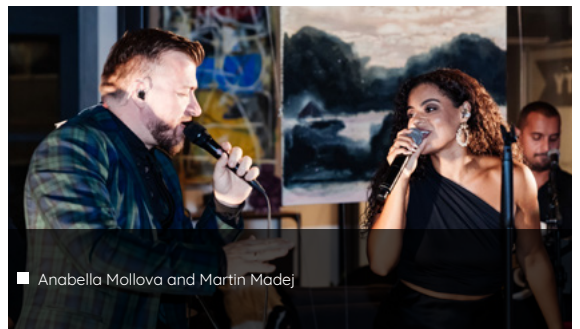
Slovakia's remarkable journey over the past three decades. Long-standing members, new faces, old friends, and supporters came together to commemorate AmCham's impact, filling the night with cherished memories, lively entertainment, and ambitious plans for what lies ahead.

We were honored by opening speeches from two distinguished guests: Juraj Blanár, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia, and His Excellency Gautam A. Rana, Ambassador of the United States to Slovakia, whose words underscored the international significance of AmCham's work and its forward-looking vision.

The night's entertainment was equally remarkable, with captivating musical performances by Anabella Mollova and Martin Madej. Guests enjoyed not only the music but a variety of interactive activities—trying their hand at virtual reality, discovering the colors that suit them best, or unleashing their creative side through painting or jewelry-making.

The highlight of the evening was the ceremonial cutting of the 30th anniversary cake, symbolically performed by AmCham's current Executive Director, President, and several past leaders. This moment emphasized the deep connection between AmCham Slovakia's past, present, and its enduring mission. It was a powerful reminder of the continuity in AmCham's work, as well as its commitment to its core values and goals.

This milestone celebration also marked the beginning of AmCham's fourth decade, brimming with confidence and readiness to tackle the challenges and opportunities ahead. The Festival of Future reaffirmed that AmCham Slovakia and its members are more than prepared to lead the way into a bold and innovative future, working together to tackle the most pressing challenges and opportunities tomorrow brings.



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Representatives of some of the event's Diamond sponsors on stage: Milan Zimnykova, Moderator; Lucia Gröneová of Swiss Re; Jan Melichar of Citi; and Martin Medved of Philip Morris Slovakia



From left: H.E. Gautam Rana of US Embassy; Kamil Šaško of Ministry of Economy; Ronald Blaško of VAIA; Martina Slabejová of AmCham Slovakia; Silvia Galgóciová with Gabriel Galgóci of Ministry of Economy; and Júlia Steinerová of Slovak Telekom



The celebration brought together not only the current AmCham team but also past leaders who have made invaluable contributions to AmCham's success today.

