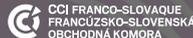




British Chamber of Commerce  
in the Slovak Republic



Slovenská  
obchodná  
a priemyselná  
komora



SLOVENSKO - MAKROSKÁ OBCHODNÁ KOMORA  
SLOWAKISCHE - ÖSTERREICHISCHE HANDELSKAMMER



ČESKÉ ZEMSKÉ  
KAMERÁŘSKÉ  
TĚLŮ  
ČESKÁ  
KAMERÁŘSKO-SLOVENSKÁ  
OBCHODNÁ KOMORA

# Pre-Election Debate

## How to boost the competitiveness of Slovakia?

TUESDAY  
December 10, 2019

VENUE  
Hotel Crowne Plaza  
Bratislava

A wide coalition of 14 business associations and chambers of commerce, including AmCham Slovakia, has finalized two sets of recommendations with the biggest potential to improve things in the fields of human capital and rule of law and thus increase Slovakia's overall competitiveness. These recommendations - 10 Commandments for a Country of Talent, and 10 Commandments for a Fair and Predictable Business Environment - were based on the long-term experience of employers, as well as best practices from abroad and serve as a critical reflection on the current state of Slovak economy.

As Mário Lelovský, First Vice President of the Republic Union of Employers, pointed out in his opening speech "governments come and go, while employers stay." However, as all employers and business associations attempting to improve the business environment in Slovakia fully realize, the much needed changes depend on political support. With the approaching date of the parliamentary

elections, the goal of this debate was to introduce the 20 compiled recommendations to the representatives of major political parties and find out to what extent they are compatible with their political programs and if they are perceived as priorities or not.



**Governments come and go, employers stay.**

MÁRIO LELOVSKÝ,  
First Vice President of the  
Republic Union of Employers

The debate was divided into two parts, the first one focused on Slovakia's ability to use the talent of its people to its full potential. This involves the creation of a more effective and attractive education system which could slow down the ongoing brain drain, as well as modernizing labor legislation to better reflect

the needs of the dynamic Industry 4.0 economy.

In the second part, the politicians offered their views on ten recommendations that could make the Slovak business environment more stable and predictable, two key attributes that are favorable for doing business but also for the general quality of life. Besides discussing various technicalities of possible solutions and improvements, the discussion often shifted to the topics of political culture and responsibility.

In general, the representatives of the present political parties agreed on the importance of

the discussed issues, as well as on the proposed solutions. However, it is still a long way from making them a priority and finding the political will to implement them. That is why AmCham's President Gabriel Galgóczi used his closing remarks not only to thank all the participants but also to express hope that a productive dialogue between politicians and the employers will continue also after the elections.

The full version of the documents in Slovak language can be found at: <https://amcham.sk/news/273219/amcham-cares-about-slovakias-competitiveness>



Panel I: 10 Commandments for a country of talents environment moderated by **Marcela Šimková**, Hospodárske noviny;  
Panel II: 10 Commandments for fair and predictable business moderated by **Michal Magušin**, TV Joj; Týžden weekly

From left: **Caroline Lísková**, KDH; **Eduard Heger**, OĽaNO; **Miroslav Beblavý**, PS/ Spolu; **Richard Sulík**, SaS; **Veronika Remišová**, Za ľudí; and **Štefan Holý**, Sme rodina