

2026

# CANDIDATES FOR THE AMCHAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Personal Statements



The American Chamber of Commerce in the Slovak Republic will hold the **2026 General Assembly** online on **April 28**, at 11.00 a.m.

At the General Assembly, the American Chamber of Commerce will announce the outcome of this year's elections for the Board of Directors. To ensure that you are able to make an informed decision when casting your ballot, AmCham Slovakia has prepared special brochure with detailed information about each candidate for the Board of Directors.

As part of the candidacy of each nominee, we asked the candidates to provide a personal statement addressing the following questions:

- **What will be your strategic priorities if elected to serve on the AmCham Board of Directors for the following 3 years tenure?**
- **Which areas of expertise do you expect to bring to the AmCham community within our committees and working groups?**
- **Which concrete activities or programs/projects would you like to lead or support within the 3-years term of office?**

We do encourage each of our member companies to cast their ballots to ensure that your voice is heard, as it is the membership that makes the very important decisions as to who will serve during the upcoming years.

**On the following pages, you will find all candidates for elections of the AmCham Board of Directors 2026 and their personal statements.**



I am honored to submit nomination to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Slovakia. My priorities would focus on areas where AmCham can create the greatest long-term value for the Slovak economy and for its members.

Talent availability has become one of the most critical factors of economic growth. I would support initiatives that connect companies, universities, and policymakers to help build a workforce prepared for the digital and innovation economy. Practical education models, stronger collaboration with academia, and leadership development are essential to addressing the current skills gap and ensuring Slovakia remains competitive.

At the same time, Slovakia's next phase of economic growth will depend on its ability to move toward a knowledge- and innovation-driven economy. AmCham can play a key role in promoting policies that encourage innovation, digital transformation, and responsible adoption of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.

I would bring to AmCham's Board and committees a combination of strategic leadership, sector expertise, and experience in multi-stakeholder collaboration. My key areas of contribution include strategic leadership and governance, public policy dialogue and stakeholder engagement, and cross-sector cooperation between business, academia, and government. Through my experience across both the private and public sectors, I aim to help translate business priorities into actionable policy dialogue and collaborative initiatives within AmCham's committees and working groups.

During my tenure, I would support initiatives that bring tangible value to AmCham members and to Slovakia's broader economic ecosystem. This includes establishing regular dialogue platforms connecting technology leaders, policymakers, and academia to advance digital transformation and innovation. I would also promote stronger partnerships between companies, universities, and students through internships, mentorship, and leadership development programs. In addition, I would encourage collaboration around healthcare innovation, system sustainability, and demographic challenges that increasingly affect Slovakia's long-term competitiveness.

Over the next three years, I see AmCham continuing to strengthen its role as the leading platform for constructive dialogue between business, academia, and government. By connecting global expertise with local stakeholders, AmCham can help Slovakia accelerate its transition toward a modern, innovation-driven economy.

Serving on the AmCham Board would be an opportunity for me to actively contribute to this mission and support the continued success of the organization and its members.



**GABRIEL  
GALGÓCI**

Director of  
Supercomputing Centre,  
Commercial Director  
TUKE

### What will be your strategic **PRIORITIES** if elected to serve on the AmCham Board of Directors for the following 3 years tenure?

I will explain my vision for AmCham Slovakia through 3 simple words: Develop – Inspire – Activate. Slovakia stands at a critical moment. Our competitiveness is under pressure. We face slowing growth, brain drain, structural skills mismatches, and increasing regulatory complexity. At the same time, global transformation – digitalization, AI, geopolitical shifts – is accelerating. If we do not actively shape our environment, we risk falling behind. So, what can we do to shift this trend?

1. **DEVELOP** - We must move beyond discussion and build structured, long-term collaboration between business and academia. Through my experience in leading large business division and partnering with universities in Bratislava, I have seen that when business clearly articulates future skill needs, academia responds. Together, we can strengthen future-ready talent pipelines and improve Slovakia's attractiveness for investment.
2. **INSPIRE** - We need environments – think tanks and cross-sector working groups – where companies, universities, and policymakers co-create solutions. Innovation does not happen in isolation; it requires connection, scale, and shared ambition.
3. **ACTIVATE** - We must be a constructive, critical, and fair sounding board for the government. Not oppositional, but professional, data-driven, and solutions-oriented.



**PAVOL  
GRIGER**

Unit Head, Director for  
Life & Health Reinsurance  
Operations CE, Swiss Re

### Which areas of **EXPERTISE** do you expect to bring to the AmCham community within our committees and working groups?

I am ready to contribute with my leadership experience, strategic mindset, and collaborative approach to help strengthen Slovakia's growth trajectory and ensure our business community remains resilient.

### Which concrete **ACTIVITIES** or programs/projects would you like to lead or support within the 3-years term of office?

Slovakia needs stability, predictability, and reforms that support our growth. AmCham can help shape policies that enable competitiveness while maintaining trust and transparency. Over the next three years, I would actively support and help lead initiatives that strengthen future-ready skills, foster innovation, and deepen collaboration between the private sector, education, and public institutions.

As I am representing Swiss Re, global re/insurance company and one of the largest employers in Slovakia, I am especially interested in the People pillar and Business Academic Cooperation Committee. In a world defined by constant change, shaping the right skills is not just an advantage but a necessity.

I see AmCham as a catalyst for forward-looking dialogue, practical solutions, and impactful partnerships – helping its members navigate change while contributing to a competitive, innovative, and inclusive business environment in Slovakia.

I am pleased to present my candidacy for the AmCham Board of Directors. For the past ten years, I have worked at Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, where I lead the Governmental Affairs, Patient Engagement, and Advocacy agenda. I am also a member of the country leadership team.

Throughout my career, I have worked at the intersection of business and public policy in healthcare and pharmaceuticals, with additional experience in the FMCG sector and a previous role at AmCham as Policy and Advocacy Officer. I have worked in the Slovak Parliament and in the European Parliament, and I have cooperated with government institutions — including the offices of two Prime Ministers. These experiences have given me practical insights into how decisions are made and how they affect businesses.

Today, companies face rapid technological change, AI-driven transformation, and a complex geopolitical landscape. In times like these, businesses need a stable environment founded on the rule of law, democratic values, transparent decision-making, and consistent policies.

I believe that the AmCham should not only represent businesses; it must help them grow, connect industries, and navigate change. If elected to the Board of Directors, I will focus on three priorities:

- 1. Strengthening the voice of business in policy and decision-making.** I will encourage focused, evidence-based advocacy to remove regulatory barriers and secure pragmatic policy wins. By prioritizing measurable outcomes and clear ownership, we will ensure advocacy delivers real improvements for members.
- 2. Encouraging cooperation and innovation across industries.** I will support cross-sector initiatives to accelerate responsible AI adoption and practical digital transformation, fostering collaboration and scaling solutions that benefit businesses of all sizes.
- 3. Improving healthcare for the workforce.** I will continue to champion the view that healthcare is an investment, not an expense, promoting data-driven policies and funding decisions that support workforce health and address demographic challenges — because a healthy economy requires a healthy workforce.

I believe that when businesses succeed, our entire community succeeds with them. I would be honored to contribute my experience to building a credible, active, and trusted American Chamber of Commerce.



As Managing Partner at Lansky, Ganzger, Jacko & Partner in Bratislava and Prague, I have spent two decades advising international investors, corporations, and institutions on complex legal, regulatory, and strategic matters. My professional work has consistently focused on helping businesses navigate regulatory challenges, manage risks, and operate successfully in dynamic and often complex environments.

My engagement with the American Chamber of Commerce in Slovakia reflects this long-term commitment to strengthening the business environment. I currently serve as Vice Chair of the Restructuring and Insolvency Task Force and Vice Chair of the Construction Law Task Force, where I contribute to expert dialogue on legislation, regulatory reforms, and policy initiatives affecting key sectors of the Slovak economy. Another key role I serve is the position of Chair of the Steering Committee of the Rule of Law Initiative which is co-driven by AmCham. Through this work, I have had the opportunity not only to collaborate closely with fellow AmCham members, policymakers, and industry experts to promote transparent, predictable, and business-friendly regulatory frameworks but also to influence state policies and legislation in various sectors.

If elected to the AmCham Board of Directors, I would aim to further strengthen the AmCham's role as a respected voice of the international business community and as a constructive partner in shaping policies that support economic competitiveness, responsible entrepreneurship, and sustainable growth.

My strategic priorities would focus on the rule of law and regulatory predictability, enhancing constructive dialogue between the business community and policymakers, and supporting policies that foster investment, innovation, and long-term economic development. A stable and transparent regulatory environment is essential for maintaining investor confidence and ensuring that Slovakia remains an attractive destination for international business.

Through my professional background, I bring expertise in corporate governance, compliance, competition and EU law, insolvency and restructuring, crisis management, infrastructure and construction projects, and cross-border regulatory advisory. I believe this experience and my complex overview through those various fields is an added value not only for AmCham's committees and working groups but also for the position of the member of the Board of Directors.

During my term, I would aim to support initiatives that strengthen expert dialogue between businesses and policymakers, promote high standards of corporate governance and compliance, and further develop AmCham's committees and task forces as platforms where the expertise of member companies translates into practical policy recommendations and tangible improvements to the business environment.

I strongly believe that AmCham plays a unique role in connecting business leadership, expertise, and public policy. My goal would be to contribute to ensuring that AmCham continues to serve as a trusted platform for dialogue, expertise, and responsible economic leadership in Slovakia.



## What is your **VISION** for AmCham Slovakia within the 3-year term of office?

My vision is for AmCham to strengthen its role as the leading platform for constructive engagement with government and legislators, ensuring that the practical experience and expertise of its members are channelled into meaningful improvements in Slovakia's regulatory and business supporting framework.

## What would be your **CONTRIBUTION** to the Board of Directors?

- **Rule of Law.** This is a topic of acute relevance today — yet it extends well beyond emergencies, crises, and reactive responses. Proactivity and initiative matter equally, particularly in light of the new Civil Code becoming effective from July next year. Understanding its practical implications and seizing the opportunities it presents will be vital to fostering a robust, fair, and effective business environment, while mitigating the risks of any negative, distortive, or anti-business effects.
- **Artificial Intelligence.** I draw here on AOS's position as one of the earliest adopters of Harvey and other AI tools in the Slovak legal market. For several years, we have been actively using, testing, and pioneering AI in our practice, closely observing its impact on how legal work is performed and how business is shaped. This is an area where I am keen to contribute meaningfully.
- **Human Talent.** The people dimension of doing business is my third priority, encompassing generational shifts and intergenerational dialogue, investment in education and continuous learning, and mental health in the workplace. At a broader level, we must address a pressing concern: why our most talented young people are becoming demotivated, losing their ambition, and disengaging from the prospect of investing in and contributing to Slovakia's future.

I bring more than 25 years of experience in the legal field, gained at one of the world's premier international law firms. I have been personally and professionally involved in legislative reform efforts across a range of specialist areas, including insolvency law, security interest law, capital markets regulation. This hands-on experience with the substance and process of legal reform equips me to contribute meaningfully to AmCham's advocacy and policy work.

## What **CHANGES** would you like to implement in AmCham Slovakia if you were elected?

Over the course of my career, I have developed an extensive network of contacts at various levels of decision-making in both the private and public sectors. I would seek to deploy this network for the benefit of AmCham and its members, facilitating dialogue and building the relationships necessary for effective advocacy

Furthermore, A&O Shearman maintains strong institutional relationships with many leading international industry bodies and specialist associations — including ISDA, ICMA, EBF, and ETE, to name just a few. These connections offer AmCham an additional channel through which to align its positions with international best practice and to amplify its voice on matters of cross-border significance.



**RENÁTUS  
KOLLÁR**

Co-Managing Partner  
Allen Overy Shearman  
Sterling

## What will be your strategic **PRIORITIES** if elected to serve on the AmCham Board of Directors for the following 3 years tenure?

My priorities would align with AmCham's four pillars—Institutions (*#ruleoflaw*), People (*#skills4future*), Innovations (*#InnovativeSlovakia*), and Regions (*#eastinnovation*)—with an emphasis on measurable outcomes. Under Institutions, I would support the Rule of Law Initiative and relevant task forces to keep AmCham's positions practical, evidence-based, and consistently followed through with decision-makers, strengthening AmCham's influence on legislation. Under People, I would advance talent development through the Business Academic Cooperation Committee and Employment & Social Affairs Committee, focusing on future-ready skills and better alignment between education and labor market needs. Under Innovations, I would prioritize digitalization and AI via AlslovakIA and the Digital Committee, linking members' operational experience with policy and adoption. Under Regions, I would support Eastern Slovakia's Business Potential to translate competitiveness and talent initiatives into tangible regional impact. Overall, I would help AmCham focus on a few visible "wins" each year that members value and policymakers can implement.

## Which areas of **EXPERTISE** do you expect to bring to the AmCham community within our committees and working groups?

I bring 26 years of leadership experience in telecommunications and global operations across sales, vendor management, customer care, and service delivery, with a strong execution mindset. I have built and scaled shared business centers in Slovakia and established sales back-office operations outside Europe—directly relevant to the Business Service Center Forum and competitiveness discussions. As the leader of AT&T Slovakia and a global service delivery leader, I can contribute on digital infrastructure, digital transformation, and practical AI adoption, supporting AlslovakIA and the Digital Committee. In the talent space, I have delivered 40+ lectures and have been involved in Skills for Success for more than 10 years, which connects naturally to Business Academic Cooperation. I also bring experience aligning stakeholders across geographies and functions—valuable for building consensus and delivering concrete outputs in working groups.

## Which concrete **ACTIVITIES** or programs/projects would you like to lead or support within the 3-years term of office?

Within *#InnovativeSlovakia*, I would support AlslovakIA and the Digital Committee by developing a member-driven stream on AI/digitalization (curated roundtables, practical recommendations, and real use cases that can also inform advocacy). Within *#skills4future*, I would help expand Skills for Success-type engagement through the Business Academic Cooperation Committee, including deeper cooperation with universities, and I'm ready to contribute personally as a speaker/mentor. Through the Business Service Center Forum, I would strengthen the SSC/BSC sector's voice on talent availability, skills development, and operating conditions. Under *#ruleoflaw*, I would support clearer prioritization and stronger follow-through so advocacy translates into change. Under *#eastinnovation*, I would back Eastern Slovakia's Business Potential initiatives linking regional talent pipelines and digital readiness with employers' needs.



**ZOLTÁN  
LABAI**

President  
AT&T Global Network  
Services Slovakia, s.r.o.

**What will be your strategic PRIORITIES if elected to serve on the AmCham Board of Directors for the following 3 years tenure?**

My key priority will be to strengthen AmCham's role as a credible, impactful voice in shaping Slovakia's business environment, particularly in areas where companies face increasing economic pressure. Building on my leadership of AmCham's Restructuring & Insolvency Committee, I will continue promoting constructive collaboration between businesses, practitioners, and state institutions to ensure that legislation—especially in insolvency, restructuring, finance, and energy—supports stability, competitiveness, and long-term growth.

During last years, our committee developed very good working relationship with several policymakers including Min. of Justice and the opportunity lies in enlarging the scope of professional discussions so to capture other AmCham priorities. For example, in the area of R&I we were often tasked to draft pieces of legislation and/or provide structural comments on new legislation. The same could be achieved for other areas, in particular corporate law, question of trusts, tax reforms, any legislation impacting regulated industries (banking, insurance and telco). Finally, my voice can be vocal also in relation to any technology questions as my previous position included firm leadership in tech matters for over 8 years.

I will continue to push for professional events and conferences which enable increase of cooperation and sharing of knowhow. At the same time, I think AmCham could move into new formats, in particular, smaller and targeted 'closed' round-tables that will further foster efficient legislation drafting and market-wide players discussion.

**Which areas of EXPERTISE do you expect to bring to the AmCham community within our committees and working groups?**

I am confident in having discussions on variety of legal topics (including, wider topics such as Rule of Law and Slovakia's Competitiveness). Furthermore, specific areas include banking & finance, restructuring and insolvency, M&A, real estate, energy, technology, employment law, and compliance.

**Which concrete ACTIVITIES or programs/projects would you like to lead or support within the 3-years term of office?**

I am generally ready to support or lead initiatives that drive industry relevant regulatory reforms, strengthen energy security and sustainability, and promote innovation and technological advancement. Specific projects to include:

- continue activities in restructuring, compliance, and corporate governance
- building platforms for high quality events such as conferences on nuclear energy, ESG, finance, and corporate investigations
- support AmCham in building and launching additional specialised workforces as that proved, in my view, to be capable of positively including special laws and having better quality discussion with policy makers.
- next gen. programmes and/or push for more collaboration with universities and educational bodies in Slovakia (including, SAV, and many more) fostering the next generation of Slovak business and legal talent across not only legal professional but service firms generally.



**VILIAM  
MYŠIČKA**

Managing Partner  
Kinstellar Bratislava

The past years have proven to be even more challenging than we originally anticipated. With no clear signs of stabilization ahead, the importance of strong platforms that enable cooperation, joint advocacy, and constructive dialogue among businesses has never been greater. At a time when international relations are increasingly strained, organizations such as AmCham play a critical role in preserving trust, predictability, and a rules-based business environment in Slovakia.

Over the past three years, I have sought to contribute to AmCham's mission of remaining the strongest and most respected voice of international business in Slovakia—particularly through a professional, fact-based, and constructive approach to advocacy. Martina and her team have navigated these turbulent times with exceptional dedication and competence, and I would be honored to continue supporting their efforts.

If you believe that my experience and engagement have been of value to AmCham and its members, I would very much appreciate your support for another term on the AmCham Board of Directors.

### **What will be your strategic PRIORITIES if elected to serve on the AmCham Board of Directors for the following 3 years tenure?**

Building on my previous mandate, my key strategic priorities would be to:

1. Promote topics related to the digital transformation of the Slovak economy
2. Continue pushing for the principles of fair and transparent business environment in Slovakia
3. Strengthen the dialogue between AmCham and Slovak authorities.

### **Which areas of EXPERTISE do you expect to bring to the AmCham community within our committees and working groups?**

As a professional with extensive experience in regulatory affairs, public policy, and external stakeholder relations, spanning both heavy industry and the ICT sector, I bring a practical understanding of how regulation, public administration, and business realities intersect. I aim to contribute this expertise to help AmCham communicate clearly, advocate effectively, and maintain its strong credibility with policymakers and partners.

### **Which concrete ACTIVITIES or programs/projects would you like to lead or support within the 3-years term of office?**

During the next three-year term, I would be keen to:

- Remain actively involved in the Rule of Law Initiative
- Help lead and revitalize the Public Procurement Committee
- Continue to work with university students through the Skills for Success project
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Participate in committees aligned with O2 Slovakia's agenda, including the Digital Committee and Energy Committee, as well as other initiatives where my involvement would be useful



**MATEJ  
STUŠKA**

Public Affairs  
O2 Slovakia, s.r.o.

Nominee standing for  
reelection to the Board 

Dear AmCham community, as a senior legal professional working in an innovation driven and highly regulated sector, I am committed to helping Slovakia strengthen its transparency, resilience, and long term economic vitality. If elected to the AmCham Board of Directors, I would focus on initiatives that promote a modern, predictable, and innovation friendly environment for all industries.

My priorities would center on supporting innovation and accelerating the use of new technologies - particularly within the public sector - while promoting data driven decision making across Slovakia. These elements are essential not only for the life sciences sector but for the entire economy, as industries increasingly rely on interconnected systems, shared data, and a regulatory approach that supports investment, creativity, and responsible long term planning.

As a lawyer, I bring extensive experience in navigating complex regulatory frameworks and in promoting practical, business oriented legal solutions. I believe that legal certainty, efficient regulation, and a strong rule of law directly shape the country's economic health and attractiveness to investors.

Within AmCham, I am already active in the Healthcare Committee, and I see natural synergies with Sustainability and Resilience, where I would like to contribute more systematically. I am also open to supporting the Rule of Law Initiative, as trusted institutions and predictable governance are essential foundations for the business community.

Beyond improvements in healthcare, I see an urgent need to strengthen Slovakia's long term sustainability and demographic resilience. Slovakia's population is gradually ageing - a natural societal development that requires thoughtful planning and smart investment to ensure the system remains sustainable.

In this context, a meaningful next step for AmCham would be the establishment of a "Long Term Planning and Investment Platform" within one of the existing committees. This initiative would bring together experts, businesses, and public institutions to promote evidence based public spending, improved forecasting tools, and sustainable investment priorities for the years ahead. My ambition is to help AmCham shape solutions that support Slovakia's future stability and prosperity.



**ZUZANA  
URBANOVSKÁ**

Head of Legal  
Novartis Slovakia s.r.o.

### What will be your strategic **PRIORITIES** if elected to serve on the AmCham Board of Directors for the following 3 years tenure?

My strategic priorities for the upcoming three-year tenure are built on the essential synergy between People and Business. In an era of rapid transformation, I aim to serve as a Strategic Mentor and Navigator for labor market dynamics. By bridging local expertise with global best practices, I will focus on:

- **Data-Driven Market Leadership:** Moving from intuition to evidence-based decision-making across the AmCham community.
- **Future-Proofing the Workforce:** Navigating the shift in skills and labor availability to ensure member companies remain competitive.
- **Strategic Growth through People:** Ensuring that human capital remains the primary engine for business evolution in the Slovak region.

### Which areas of **EXPERTISE** do you expect to bring to the AmCham community within our committees and working groups?

I bring a multi-disciplinary toolkit to AmCham's committees and working groups, centered on the principle of "Data over Feelings." My contributions will focus on:

- **Labor Market Intelligence:** Providing deep-dive analytics, salary and benefit benchmarking, and predictive trend modeling to help members understand "what's next."
- **Modern Talent Ecosystems:** Sharing expertise in digital training and development platforms that cater to the evolving needs of the 21st-century workforce.
- **Value-Based Employer Branding:** Leveraging my experience in internal and external communication to build authentic employer brands rooted in long-term goals and corporate values.
- **Global Inclusion & Diversity:** Bringing localized and international insights into inclusive employment practices—recognizing, as seen in recent manufacturing sector data, that inclusion is a significant driver of employer attractiveness.

### Which concrete **ACTIVITIES** or programs/projects would you like to lead or support within the 3-years term of office?

During my term, I intend to take a lead or supportive role in high-impact initiatives that drive measurable progress:

- **AmCham Pulse Surveys:** Leading the design and execution of targeted surveys to capture the "vibe" of the business community, turning results into actionable Call-to-Action (CTA) points for the Board.
- **Strategic Networking Events:** Transforming traditional networking into "Knowledge Exchanges" where data sharing and peer-to-peer mentoring are the primary focus.
- **Labor Market "Voice of Truth" Series:** Creating a recurring program or white-paper series that addresses critical topics such as health in the workplace, stress management (AI-driven diagnostics), and the integration of marginalized talent groups.
- **B2B Partnership Evolvement:** Utilizing deep data approaches to support the development of new business partnerships and global trend adaptation within the Slovak market.



**PATRÍCIA  
VALACHOVIČOVÁ**

Head of Strategy  
& External Relations  
Alma Career Slovakia



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