



**Danube Data Center** - a data center project, at the moment at preparatory phase, highlight great investment opportunities described below in Slovakia. More information about our mission you can find at [www.danubedata.center](http://www.danubedata.center)

### **Why SLOVAKIA**

This publication is designed to provide an overview of Slovak investment & business environment including its key sectors. The main purpose is to illustrate what SLOVAKIA has to offer and why it should be considered as an ideal location for various types of businesses — ranging from manufacturing, global services and IT centers to research & development.

### **Closer Than You Think!**

SLOVAKIA is situated in the geographical center of Europe and is accessible from all key European economic hubs. As a fully integrated EU member, Slovakia is a part of its internal market, which means that around 500 million EU citizens can be easily accessed.

### 10 REASONS Why to Consider SLOVAKIA as Your Investment Destination

**LOCATION** Strategic location in the heart of Europe with great export potential

**SAFETY & STABILITY** One of the safest and politically most stable countries in Europe (source: Credit Insurance Group Credendo)

**EUROZONE** A member of the Eurozone since 2009 as one of the few in Central & Eastern Europe

**QUALIFIED WORKFORCE** Cost-effective, skilled and loyal labour force with excellent multilingual skills

**PRODUCTIVITY** The highest labour productivity rate in Central & Eastern Europe (source: Eurostat)

**INVESTOR-FRIENDLINESS** Slovak government is continuously increasing the quality of local business & investment environment

**INNOVATIVE ECOSYSTEM** The highest share of higher added value jobs in CEE, ready for new investments into R&D and innovation

**OPENESS** One of the most export oriented and open economies in the EU (source: Eurostat)

**DEVELOPED INFRASTRUCTURE** Developed and steadily growing infrastructure network with regards to road, railway & flight connections

**INCENTIVES** Attractive investment incentives scheme and special tax regimes for R&D activities





SLOVAKIA is experiencing an ongoing economic expansion, driven by continually increasing domestic demand, as well as booming investments — domestic and foreign. Since 2010 Slovak economy has been growing above the EU average and is expected to keep this pace also in the coming years.

Slovak economy has been growing also in the terms of quality. Between 2010 and 2018 SLOVAKIA experienced the second highest growth of added value in the industrial production in the OECD.

### One of the **Lowest Indebtedness in Eurozone**

Healthy governmental and corporate finances are linked to low risk of implementation of austerity measures which would negatively affect business and private sector.

### The Most Open Economy in the EU

SLOVAKIA ranks as no. 1 globally in **Ease Of Trading Across Borders** reflecting the time and cost associated with the logistical process of exporting/importing goods.

SLOVAKIA ranks as no. 12 in the world in the **Open Markets Index** assessing openness to trade, trade policy settings, FDI openness and trade-enabling infrastructure.

### **Productive & Skilled Labour Force**

In SLOVAKIA, investors can find workforce which excels in three major areas — productivity, qualification & labour costs. SLOVAKIA is a regional leader in labor productivity, while still remaining cost-competitive on the regional as well as the European level.

**AMONG WORLD LEADERS IN AUTOMATION** Slovakia belongs to top 15 countries with the highest number of installed robots in the production industry per 10,000 employees.

**FDI & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER LEADER IN CEE** Slovakia is CEE leader in the extent of bringing new technology to host country (16/137 Global Ranking).

**THE HIGHEST PROPORTION OF HIGHER ADDED-VALUE JOBS** The employment in high- and medium-high technology manufacturing sectors and in knowledge-intensive services as a share of total employment is the highest in the region.

**CONSTRUCTIVE LABOUR RELATIONS** Slovakia records the lowest number of lost working days due to industrial actions in Europe (per 1,000 employees).





**HARD-WORKING LABOUR FORCE** Slovakia has the highest percentage of people working at night & weekends in CEE.

### **Pillars of the Slovak Economy**

SLOVAKIA prides itself on its industrial heritage which has provided a stable base for the development of certain sectors such as automotive or electronics.

Over the last decade, global corporations representing various sectors have selected SLOVAKIA as the top location for their expansion in the CEE region.

### **AUTOMOTIVE**

The automotive industry has a strong tradition, it has been the driving force of the Slovak economy and important source of foreign direct investment in the past 20 years. Moreover, SLOVAKIA is well located within the European automotive production hub.

over 1 million vehicles produced in 2019

### **ELECTRONICS & ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS**

The electronics & electrical components industry (EECI) is one of the strongest contributors to the country's GDP and is also one of the biggest employers in the country.

### **BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER (BSCs)**

Thanks to the availability of labour force and its language skills BSCs in SLOVAKIA are evolving towards centers with higher added-value with greater emphasis on quality of their services.

### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES**

The information & communication technologies (ICT) sector has a solid position in the Slovak economy. This is demonstrated by the presence of foreign owned companies such as T-Systems, Asseco, Accenture, Soitron, Atos as well as strong domestic companies such as Eset, Sygic.

Slovak developers were ranked as the best developers in the world as measured by programming skills testing program





## RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

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**RIS3 — NATIONAL R&D SPECIALISATION STRATEGY** National R&D Specialization Strategy is focused on innovation support through cooperation between enterprises and research institutions in key sectors of the Slovak economy. RIS3 identifies following priorities linked to R&D funding — material research and nanotechnology, biomedicine and biotechnology, ICT including electronics.

SLOVAKIA has been the final investment destination for several hundreds of successful projects from various countries and in a wide range of industrial sectors.

## Investment Incentives

The primary goal of the investment incentives is to motivate investors to place their new projects in regions with higher unemployment and to attract projects with higher added value.

**ELIGIBLE PROJECTS** The Act on Investment Aid divides the projects which may be supported into four categories: • Industry • **Technology Centers** • Combined Projects of Industrial Production and Technology Center • Shared Services Centers

Based on the general increase in interest in data services from existing investments in Slovakia and especially the main increase from the government and public administration, we thought we believe that the expansion of your investment in our location will be the right one.

For more information (also about project state supports) do not hesitate to contact us with confidence.

Info at: [www.danubedata.center](http://www.danubedata.center)

