



Jaroslav Havel Partner

Jaroslav Havel is the managing partner of our law firm. His clients include leading financial institutions operating in the Czech and Slovak Republics, numerous Fortune 500 and Czech Top 100 companies, ministries, state-owned enterprises, some of the most successful and wealthiest Czech and Slovak private business people, and also foreign entrepreneurs doing business in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Jaroslav specializes in banking, finance, corporate and commercial law (advising in particular on matters related to top management of business companies), mergers, acquisitions, private equity/venture capital, legal audits and legal due diligence, comprehensive projects (including in the public sector), insurance, capital markets, energy, transport and healthcare law.

Typical projects led by Jaroslav consist of advising major Czech, Slovak and international corporations and individuals on acquisitions and divestitures of companies and businesses, including the financing of these transactions.

He has published numerous articles on corporate law, mergers, acquisitions, banking and financial law in both Czech and foreign legal journals. He is regularly cited in management surveys as a leader of the Czech and Slovak legal business.

Before establishing our law firm in 2001, he worked for more than six years at prominent local and international law firms based in Prague, including Linklaters.

Recommendations of international publications

The prestigious international rating publications PLC Cross-border, European Legal 500, IFLR 1000, Chambers Global, European Legal Experts, and Global Law Experts have all recommended Jaroslav as a leading Czech expert in the fields of mergers, acquisitions, corporate and commercial law, and some of them also for insolvency, restructuring, banking and finance. In 2011 Jaroslav was cited by the independent international publication Who's Who Legal as one of leading international experts in the Czech Republic for competition law and in 2014 for information technology. In 2007, Jaroslav was named the "Lawyer of the Year" for Banking and Finance in the prestigious annual competition organized jointly by the Czech Bar Association and the Czech Internet-based company epravo.cz.

Projects

Jaroslav has acted as the lead counsel or has been instrumental in a number of the largest transactions executed in the Czech Republic in recent years.

- business combination of two major insurance companies in several countries in Central and Eastern Europe (a transaction worth EUR 5.1 billion)
- the largest bankruptcy proceedings in the Czech Republic's history
- contemplated privatization of Czech Airlines
- acquisition of the largest Czech paper and pulp manufacturer
- acquisition of a home building savings bank with a subsequent merger of two home building savings banks
- contemplated acquisition of the world's third largest engineering manufacturer
- combination of two leading Central-European soft drink producers
- sale of a shareholding in one of the largest Czech companies in the photovoltaic sector to a major global private equity fund
- joint venture of two leading European publishing companies
- sale of one of the Czech Republic's largest construction companies
- several major acquisitions and divestitures in the food industry
- electronic toll project on Czech motorways
- a pilot B.O.T. motorway construction project
- investigation of extensive bank frauds

Membership in professional associations

Czech Bar Association
Slovak Bar Association
International Bar Association
SME Union of the Czech Republic (member of the management board)
Chamber of Public Tender Administrators (vice-chairman of the management board)

Languages

Czech, English

Education

Charles University, Faculty of Law, Prague (2000), JUDr. (Doctor of Laws)
Charles University, Faculty of Law, Prague (1996), Mgr. (Master of Laws)

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