

German–Slovak Economic Forum

AGENDA

16:00 – 21:00, Bratislava N.N.
22 September 2026

16:00 – 17:30	Briefing on Slovak market for German companies by AHK Slowakei and the German Embassy
18:00 – 21:00	Pre-Conference Networking Dinner with representatives of the AHK Slowakei, Embassy of the Federal German Republic, Government of the Slovak Republic, German Eastern Business Association and German business delegation (by invitation)

9:00 – 15:00, BASE Jurkovičova tepláreň, Bratislava
23 September 2026

In a rapidly evolving global environment, the German–Slovak Economic Forum offers an opportunity to take a closer look at where Germany and Slovakia currently stand – and where they are heading. The conference focuses on assessing whether both economies are prepared for the future, addressing key challenges related to competitiveness, innovation, sustainability and economic resilience within a European context.

By bringing together representatives from politics, business and innovation ecosystems, the forum encourages an open, cross-sector dialogue spanning industry, healthcare, research and sustainable transformation. Through this exchange, the conference aims to identify shared priorities and concrete impulses that can help shape a future-ready path for Germany and Slovakia in an increasingly complex world.

	MAIN STAGE
08:30 – 09:00	Guest Registration, Breakfast and Networking
09:00 – 09:05	Opening Address Pavel Lakatos, President of the German-Slovak Chamber of Industry and Commerce (AHK Slowakei) <i>tbc</i>

<p>09:05 – 09:10</p>	<p>Welcome Address High-Level Representative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy <i>tbc</i></p>
<p>09:10 – 09:15</p>	<p>Welcome Address Denisa Saková, Minister of Economy of the Slovak Republic <i>tbc</i></p>
<p>09:15 – 09:30</p>	<p>Welcome Address Kamil Šaško, Minister of Health of the Slovak Republic <i>tbc</i></p>
<p>09:30 – 10:30</p>	<p><i>High-level economic panel on the general economic situation in Germany and Slovakia</i></p> <p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Together Towards a Future-Ready Economy: Germany and Slovakia in a European Context</p> <p><i>This panel discussion will focus on how Germany and Slovakia can jointly contribute to a future-ready European economy. The discussion will address key challenges such as competitiveness, innovation, sustainability and economic resilience, highlighting the importance of bilateral cooperation within the broader European context.</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Melinda Szabó, General Manager and Vice Chair of the Board, Slovak Telekom 2. Agnieszka Olenderek, CFO, Volkswagen Slovakia <i>tbc</i> 3. Lyndsay Sullivan, Country Division Head for Central and Eastern Europe, Bayer Pharmaceuticals 4. Peter Stano, Head of the European Commission Representation in Slovakia 5. Vladimír Slezák, General Manager, Siemens Slovakia <p>Moderator: Dr. Nicole Renvert, Managing Director International Markets at the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (DIHK)</p>
<p>10:30 – 10:50</p>	<p>Coffee Break <i>/ With the possibility of bilateral meetings depending on the availability of political representatives</i></p> <p>Parallel Sessions Participants will split into two parallel sessions in Room A and Room B.</p>

	STAGE A (capacity 200 pax)	STAGE B (capacity 100 pax)
10:50 – 11:45	<p>Industrial Innovation</p> <p>Voices from Industry:</p> <p>Driving industrial innovation – AI & Robotics</p> <p><i>This session offers insights into the latest trends and real-world applications of artificial intelligence, humanoid robotics, and industrial cloud platforms, presented by leading companies in the field. Company representatives will showcase their current projects, technological innovations, and hands-on experience with implementing AI in industrial environments. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how these technologies are applied in practice and the opportunities they create for the future of industry and business.</i></p>	<p>Healthcare Innovation</p> <p>Expert Panel</p> <p>Innovative Healthcare in Europe: A Strategic Investment in Economic Resilience</p> <p><i>European health systems are under increasing pressure from demographic change, rising chronic diseases and fiscal constraints. This panel will explore how innovative healthcare can strengthen economic resilience by improving population health, productivity and long-term sustainability of public finances. The discussion will focus on the need to better align budgeting, reimbursement and decision-making frameworks with the pace of medical innovation, while ensuring fast and equitable access to effective treatments. Particular attention will be given to value-based approaches and policy reforms that support both innovation and affordability in a European context.</i></p>
11.00 – 11.05	<p>Startup Pitch: Where innovation meets imagination - AI-powered Hologram box N.N., Norriv</p>	<p>Keynote: Michal Štofko, State Secretary of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic <i>tbc</i></p>
11.05 – 11.30	<p>Keynote: Humanoid Robots – Made in Germany Prof. Alexander Schönmann, Technical University of Ingolstadt <i>tbc</i></p>	<p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Michal Štofko, State Secretary of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic <i>tbc</i> 2. Pavol Dobrocký, Country Managing Director Regional Centre Vienna, Boehringer Ingelheim 3. Radovan Ďurana, Analyst, INESS <i>tbc</i> 4. Ministry of Health Germany/Expert from DIHK 5. Henrieta Tulejová, Advance Healthcare Management Institute, Founder <i>tbc</i>
11.30 – 11.45	<p>Tech Talk: Cloud Solutions in Practice N.N. Deutsche Telekom IT Solutions Slovakia</p>	<p>Moderator: Richard Fides, Grape <i>tbc</i></p>
11:45 – 12:30	<p>Industrial Innovation</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>	<p>Healthcare Innovation</p> <p>Expert Panel</p>

	<p>How Innovation, Automation and AI Are Transforming Industry and Retail: Practical Business Insights</p> <p><i>This panel discussion will explore how innovation, automation and artificial intelligence are transforming industrial production and retail while contributing to long-term competitiveness. Industry leaders will share practical insights on scaling innovation, increasing efficiency business models across Germany and Slovakia. The panel will also address the relevant legal framework of this topic in the European context.</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. N.N. Kinstellar 2. Milan Jurky, CEO Schaeffler Slovakia 3. Tomáš Čupr, CEO, Rohlík.cz tbc 4. Norbert Jung, CEO, Bosch Connected Industry <p>Moderator: Matej Benuška, Managing Partner, PA Matters</p>	<p>Innovation and digitalization of laboratory solutions and a look into the future of possible solutions.</p> <p><i>This panel discussion will explore how research, development and strategic investment are shaping the future of the healthcare sector. The discussion will focus on funding models, public-private partnerships and cross-border cooperation that accelerate innovation and strengthen Europe's healthcare competitiveness. Particular attention will also be given to the role of clinical studies and education in enhancing Europe's position as a hub for biomedical innovation, supporting the development of cutting-edge therapies and ensuring a highly skilled workforce capable of translating research into competitive advantage for the European healthcare ecosystem.</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jaroslav Vohánka, Digital Business Manager Central & Eastern Europe, Roche 2. Adriana Liptáková, Director General of the Health Section at the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic tbc 3. CZ GO <p>Moderator: Richard Fides, Grape tbc</p>
<p>12:30 – 13:30</p>	<p>Lunch Break</p> <p>Networking Lunch at Restaurant WERK</p>	
<p>13:30 – 13:40</p>	<p>Sustainability</p> <p><i>This session will focus on how innovation is driving sustainability across key sectors of the economy. It will highlight new approaches, technologies and best-practice solutions that help companies improve energy efficiency, reduce emissions and strengthen long-term competitiveness. Drawing on examples from leading industrial players, including the automotive sector, as well as highly regulated industries such as healthcare and pharmaceuticals, the discussion will show how innovation can support sustainable transformation in practice.</i></p> <p>Circular production industry in Europe – what would it bring</p> <p>Ahrend, tbc</p>	

<p>13:50– 14:45</p>	<p>Sustainability Innovation Carousel: Energy Efficiency in Practice</p> <p><i>Moderated rotating discussion</i></p> <p>This dynamic format will feature companies from the initiative Partner for sustainability through short spotlight contributions and a moderated discussion focused on practical sustainability innovations, especially in the area of energy efficiency. The session will showcase different approaches, technologies and real-world business experiences across sectors.</p> <p>Moderator: N.N.</p>
<p>14:45– 14:55</p>	<p>Closing remarks</p>

**Program is subject to change*