

New Member



FIPRA Slovakia

GENERAL MEMBER

FIPRA Slovakia – a consulting company, which is part of FIPRA Group – Finsbury International Policy & Regulatory Advisers – a leading European independent network of Senior Public Policy and Regulatory Advisers specializing in Strategic Government Relations. It is the only consultancy with public affairs advisers in Brussels, throughout the Member States of the European Union, Western Balkans, the Commonwealth of Independent States, China and U.S.A.

FIPRA Slovakia specializes in the area of strategic consulting with a focus on competition and consumer policy. They advise companies, foreign governments and international institutions every day on how best to engage with government or regulatory bodies on specific policy issues that concern them - issues that usually will have a direct impact on the bottom line.

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that shape client demand, market trends, market size and growth, and analysis of the consulting landscape and its leading players.



Slovak Telekom Group Leading the Telecommunications Market in 2008

Revenues of the **Slovak Telekom** Group for the year 2008 increased by 0.8% to EUR 1 029.0 million in a YOY comparison. This increase is driven by Mobile services business, which continued to grow with 3.6% YOY. In the Fixed line business, the key segments were growing Broadband and Wholesale services. Miroslav Majoroš, Chairman of the Board of Directors and President/CEO of Slovak Telekom stated: "The Slovak Telekom Group was confirmed again in 2008 in the leading position of the telecommunications market with its share of almost 45%. The Group revenue is growing thanks to the ever expanding broadband services in both fixed and mobile access, internet and mobile content services, pay TV and wholesales.

In the fixed network, over the last year we heavily invested in expanding the optical infrastructure, over which we provide our customers with high quality products and services. Nowadays the fiber optic access network is available to over 220,000 households. As a result of continuous customer service improvement, we have created the largest joint network of branded retail shops in Slovakia. We offer our clients comprehensive telecommunications product portfolios for the needs of residential and business customers through the chain of over 200 joint sales shops marked with a 'T' logo."

NÖRR STIEFENHOFER LUTZ s. r. o.

"Commercial Law Firm of the Year – Eastern Europe": Nörr wins in the ACQ Global Awards 2009

Munich/London, 18 March 2009. **Nörr Stiefenhofer Lutz** is 'Commercial Law Firm of the Year – Eastern Europe'. The international law firm is the recipient of this title from the ACQ Global Awards 2009, which were presented this year for the fourth time, by the

English magazine ACQ Acquisition Finance. The publishers of the magazine selected Nörr as the law firm which 'had the greatest impact [on the industry] in 2008' in Central and Eastern Europe, on the basis of a survey of more than 2,200 in-house and independent lawyers.

"This award confirms our consistent Eastern European strategy and our high standard of quality in Central and Eastern Europe" said Dr. Tobias Bürgers, co-speaker of the law firm. Other European and US law firms are at present retreating from some, or all locations in Eastern Europe and also in Slovakia. "Even during the Russian rouble crisis in 1998/99, we, unlike many competitors, remained in Moscow.

Our clients view this even today as a sign of strength and reliability", said Bürgers and underlines: "We still trust in the Slovak market and intent to provide services of the highest standard to our clients here in Slovakia as before. Even now during a period of structured changes we profit by our international presence which enables us to create best synergy effects for our clients and react prompt on each new progress."

Nörr has offices in Germany in Munich, Frankfurt, Berlin, Düsseldorf and Dresden and in CEE in Poland, Rumania, Russia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, the Ukraine and Hungary. The firm opened its first offices in the Budapest and Prague regions in 1990 and was at that time, the first foreign law firm in the then Czechoslovakia.



Former Ambassador to the U.S.A. Rastislav Káčer has joined FIPRA Slovakia

Rastislav Káčer joined **FIPRA Slovakia** after completion of his five year term as ambassador of Slovakia to the U.S.A. Prior to this he served at different levels of government for over 16 years. He started his career as a policy analyst at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Later he became head of the Analytical Unit. Between 1994 and 1998, he served as the chief liaison person at NATO HQ in Brussels. In 2001 he became the State Secretary at the Ministry of Defense responsible for negotiations and accession process of Slovakia to NATO. In July 2008, he was elected as president of the Slovak Atlantic Commission which is a member Atlantic Treaty Association.



Rastislav Káčer

Foreign Investors, Governments and International Institutions. He also serves as the Practice Leader for Defense Policy and as a member of the Procurement Working Group within FIPRA Global Practice Groups.

FIPRA Slovakia – is part of the FIPRA Group (Finsbury International Policy & Regulatory Advisers) – a leading European group active in public policy and regulatory affairs with a special focus on strategic government relations. FIPRA is the No. 1 group within the EU in the areas of Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs with their own representation in Brussels. FIPRA Slovakia is a part of strategic holding company JENEWEIN GROUP.

ALLEN & OVERY

Allen & Overy to expand the tax litigation practice

As of 1 January 2009, Tomáš Vavrák joined the Allen & Overy Bratislava from Ernst & Young. Tomáš will be co-responsible for the further development of the tax litigation practice at Allen & Overy.



Tomáš Vavrák

Tomáš graduated from the Faculty of Law, Comenius University. He obtained a Certificate in European Law and Economics and was

a research intern in the Asser Institute in The Hague, Netherlands. Tomáš has worked in the tax department of Ernst & Young since 2004, specializing in corporate taxation and the jurisprudence of the European Court of Justice. He has been a certified tax advisor since 2008.

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