

MAY 21<sup>st</sup> 2024, PRAGUE

# CZECH REPUBLIC - SPAIN Railways Business Forum

Challenges and solutions for sustainable transportation



EMBASSY OF SPAIN

ECONOMIC &  
COMMERCIAL OFFICE

PRAGUE



CZECH  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
ASSOCIATION

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## Czech Republic – Spain Railways Business Forum.

The Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic, ICEX and the Economic and Commercial Office of the Embassy of Spain in Prague organize this Forum bringing together Czech and Spanish railway sectors exchanging their experiences and vision to generate a space for collaboration between organizations and companies from both countries.

The heads of the Czech and Spanish Administration units responsible for the sector will be present as well as some of the most relevant stakeholders in much wider fields of Spanish and Czech railway transportation sectors. The Forum will host interventions by distinguished keynote speakers of Czech and Spanish institutions and companies, followed by a lunch networking and B2B meetings.



### The Spanish and Czech railway sectors

The **Czech Republic** has an extensive and one of the densest railway networks in the world, with significant ongoing plans for network modernization, in conventional and metropolitan rail transport, as well as developing high-speed lines. Moreover, the country has a very competitive railway industry in different segments successfully involved in Czech and international markets, with presence in more than 20 countries, and orders from the railway industry becoming one of the drivers of Czech industrial production and exports.

Transport Infrastructure development is a main priority for the Czech Administration enhancing competitiveness and the role of the Czech Republic as a key geostrategic hub in Central Europe, an area of high commercial transit. With State and European funds allocated to railway infrastructure, the country will implement significant projects in this sector in the coming years and decades, including the design and construction of new high-speed lines that will be part of trans-European corridors.

**Spain** has one of the most extensive and modern railway networks in the world (18,000 km of conventional network, 4,000 km of high speed-network -the longest in Europe-, 8 cities with metro and 11 with tram) and it is the European country with the highest level of implementation of the ERTMS signalling system and the longest automatic metro line in Europe.

The Spanish railway industry covers all cycles of projects with a complete value chain that integrates all subsectors with competitive and innovative solutions in national and international projects (including the planning and construction of the largest high-speed projects in the world, and 35% metro networks in South America and more than 25% in Europe rely on Spanish technology). Spain has managed to develop the most extensive high-speed network in Europe with the lowest average construction cost, very high design and quality parameters, and relatively quick times.

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## Challenges and solutions for sustainable transportation

### Event programme

21.05.2024. Fantova Budova, Main Railway Station, Wilsonova 300/8, 110 00 Prague

8:45 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:20	<p>Opening session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Martin Kupka - Minister of Transport of the Czech Republic</li> <li>- Mr. Óscar Puente - Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility of the Kingdom of Spain</li> </ul>
9:20 - 10:20 (60 min)	<p>Session 1: Challenges for financing and delivering sustainable railway transportation. Network expansion, high-speed lines, financing challenges and private-sector participation.</p> <p>- Keynote speakers:</p> <p>Ms. Lenka Hamplová – Director General of Economic &amp; Infrastructure Section, Ministry of Transport Mr. Jiří Merta – Deputy Director for Technology, High-speed Lines Construction, Správa železnic Mr. Fernando Nicolás – International Director, ADIF Spanish Railway Operator Mr. José Cordovilla – Director of Infrastructure Advisory Services, Grupo TYPSA</p> <p>- Moderator:</p> <p>Mr. Tomáš Janeba – Chairman of Czech Infrastructure Association (ARI)</p>
10:20 – 11:00 (40 min)	<p>Session 2: Opening of the market. Experiences and challenges from incumbent operators.</p> <p>- Keynote speakers:</p> <p>Mr. Michal Krapinec – Chairman of Board and Executive Director, České dráhy Mr. Raül Blanco – Chairman and CEO, Renfe Group</p> <p>- Moderator:</p> <p>Mr. Jindřich Kušnír – Director of Rail Transport, Ministry of Transport</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 - 12:30 (60 min)	<p>Session 3: Railway safety, digitalization and innovation. ERMTS deployment and challenges. Railway digitalization. Smart, intermodal, and sustainable railway stations.</p> <p>- Keynote speakers:</p> <p>Mr. Radek Čech – Director for International Relations, Správa železnic Ms. Carmen Arias – Head of Signaling and Communications Equipment, Renfe Group Mr. José Miguel Rubio – Director of Rail Transportation, INDRA Mr. Guillermo Di Gregorio – Project Director of Transport Architecture, IDOM</p> <p>- Moderator:</p> <p>Mr. Jon Alzate – Managing Director, CAF Signalling (CAF Group)</p>
12.30 - 12.40 (10 min)	<p>Reference/pitch to the Spanish companies participating in the Railway industry trade mission. Mr. Jaime Alcaide – Chief Economic and Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of Spain in Prague</p>
12:40 - 14:00	Networking lunch
14:00 - 16:45	B2B meetings

*The sessions will be conducted in English*

Attendees: representatives of

- Czech and Spanish authorities and public stakeholders
- Czech, Spanish and International private sector companies
- Economic and infrastructure associations and stakeholders
- Academic and research institutions
- Civil society organizations
- Other invited guests

Language: The program will be conducted in English

Entry: Free of charge, attendance with previous confirmed registration only

Registration: Through [this link / form](#)

*Or registration QR Code below*



VIP official reception:

On Monday 20 May, 18:30h a reception for VIP guests will be held at the Spanish Ambassador's residence.

Contact:

Economic and Commercial Office of the Embassy of Spain in Prague

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On behalf of:

ICEX Spain Trade & Investment:

[www.icex.es](http://www.icex.es) / [www.spainbusiness.com](http://www.spainbusiness.com)

In coordination with:

Ministry of Transport of the Czech Rep.

[www.mdcr.cz](http://www.mdcr.cz)

Useful information on Spanish and Czech high speed:

- [Czech high-speed VRT](#)
- [Spanish high-speed ADIF](#)
- [By train into the future, what high-speed rail will bring to the Czech Republic \(MoT ČR, SZ\)](#)
- [Efficiency of the Spanish sector in high-speed development \(Ineco, in Spanish\)](#)

Collaborating entities: