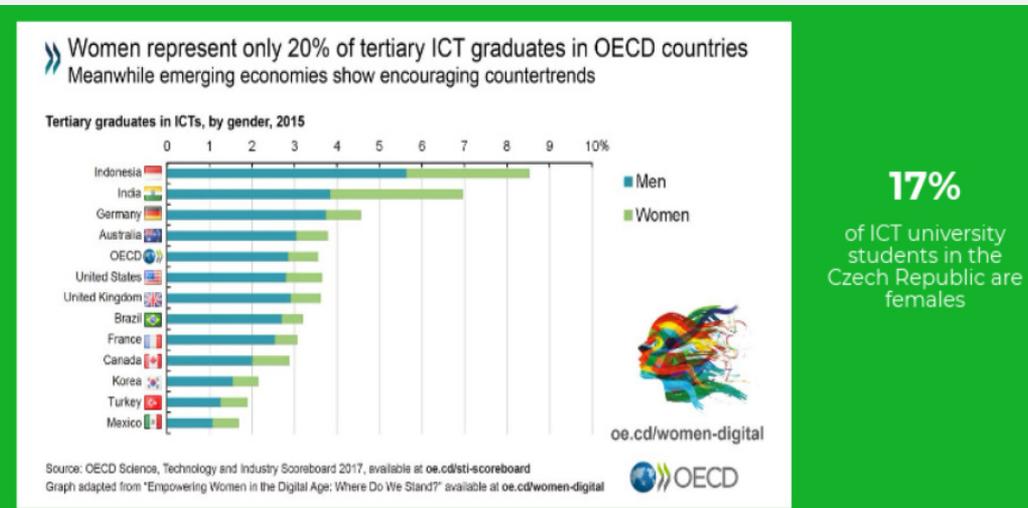
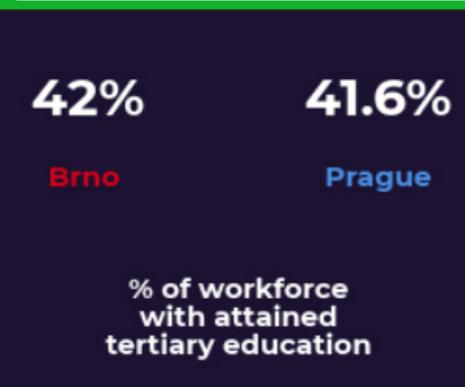


## SPOTLIGHT ISSUE



The world needs more people with IT degrees. Yet, in the latest period for which Eurostat has sufficient data (2013-2015), the number of university students pursuing IT-related degrees has declined in 15 of the 28 member countries. The Czech Republic is among those 15. Aside from Greece, in fact, the country had the highest nominal decline (-5225) among member countries. And, yes, only 5 countries had a lower percentage of female IT students than us (17%). Notably, two other countries with significant decline in IT university students were Hungary (-3247) and Poland (-3995). Germany (+22,398), Romania (+26,367) and the UK (+5,462) were the main countries contributing to the EU's 3,089 overall student increase.



'Generally, the level of digital literacy should be increased in the society as a whole, i.e. not only at schools and universities, but also across generations. Employees should continuously grow their digital literacy and skills that are relevant in the digital era, so that in their retirement age, they would be capable of taking care of themselves, interact with national and local authorities as well as social or health care institutions, etc.'

Peter Chrenko, Partner, PwC Czech Republic



NBC: Where exactly is Silicon Valley? That definition keeps expanding - interview with V.Muchna, CEO Y Soft Corporation



[Michal Nebeský: AmCham is not here to create democracy, but we are here to support it](#)

One hundred years after the founding of the Czech state, its economic and geopolitical situation has never been as successful or certain as it is today. We all should be concerned about the global threat to democracy, and each of us need to remember that voting is our right, but participating in the political life of the country our responsibility. AmCham will continue to pursue its economic agenda in ways that support democratic consensus, and plans to focus again on procurement as way to improve economic competitiveness and strengthening public trust.



[MONETA Money Bank: Our experiences with project implementation have brought some interesting findings.](#)

We can see opportunities for supporting the development of zero-emissions mobility in the Czech Republic. In our view, the biggest potential lies within organizations operating large company fleets and their employees. With respect to motivating organizations, we believe the crucial point is intensive expansion of charging stations, standardization of systems for smart re-charging in buildings where large amounts of electric cars are parked, such as office buildings or shopping malls, and centralization of the registration process for electric vehicles into a single system of discounted parking across different cities. As for the employees, it should be considered whether a change in legislation might provide them with certain benefits compared to the current situation, when their salary tax base is increased by 1 per cent if they use their company car for private purposes, whereas an electric car costs about twice as much as the same model with combustion engine.

## STATISTICS AND RANKINGS

[Eurostat: Czech Republic has one of the greatest gender gaps in ICT specialists, second greatest share of e-sales turnover for SME](#)

[PwC Women in Work Index: CZ: Increasing female employment rates to Swedish levels would mean a GDP increase by 4.4%](#)

[Bisnode Index of Women Influence: Czech Republic ranks low among 11 countries](#)

[IB Grant Thornton: Women in business 2018](#)

[Deloitte Legal 2018 exclusive study: A global look at dismissal costs and issues](#)

[IEA Global energy and CO<sub>2</sub> status report](#)

[ExxonMobil Energy Outlook](#)

[CBRE: EMEA Investor Intentions Survey 2018](#)

[Czech foreign owned companies take second biggest dividend yield in 2017: report](#)

[vbw: The importance of the German economy for Europe- study](#)

[Trip Advisor: Prague among top 25 destinations in Europe](#)

New flights from Prague

Czech Legislation Update March 2018

Contact person:

Katarína Bendíková [kbendikova@amcham.cz](mailto:kbendikova@amcham.cz)