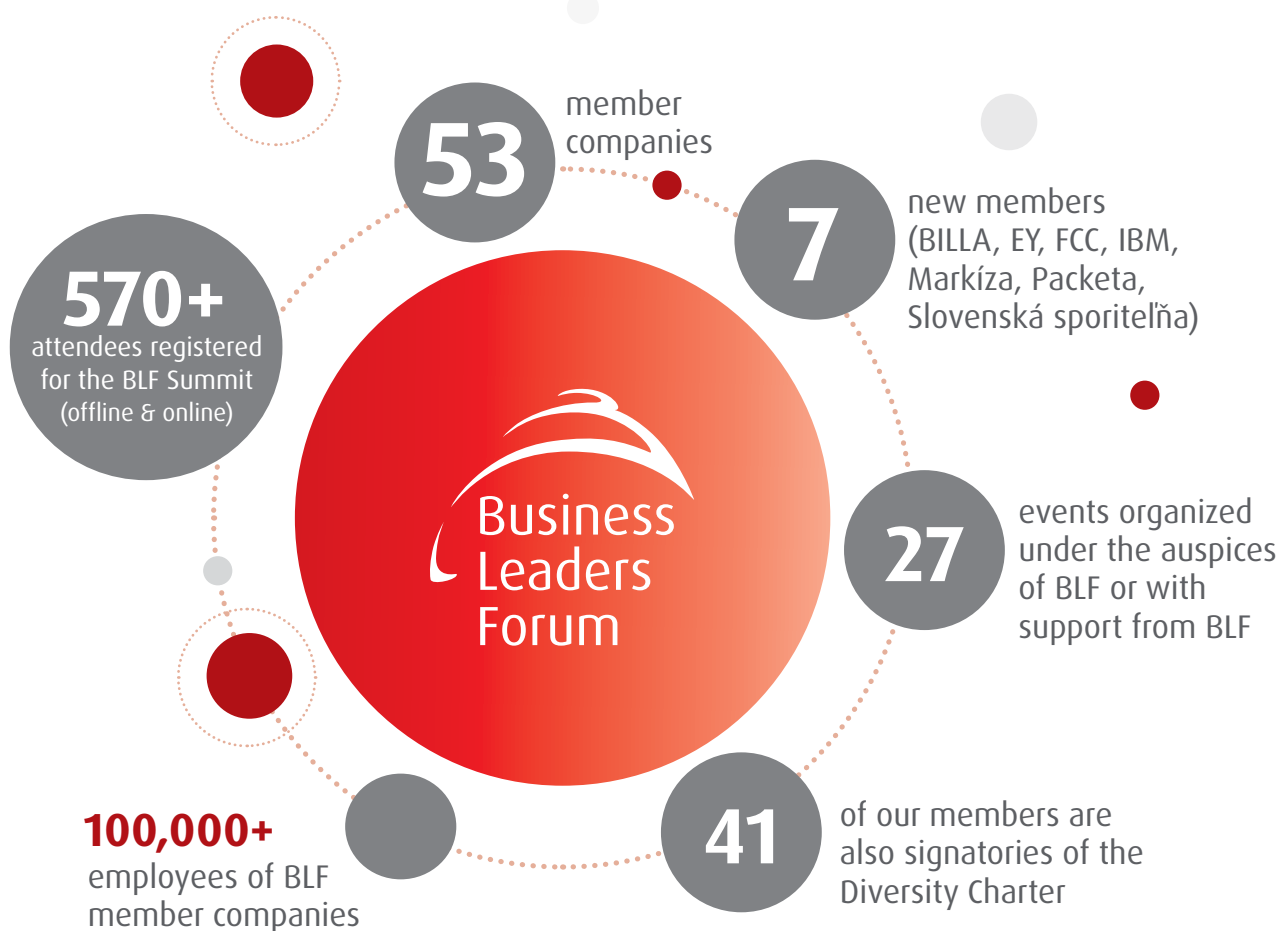


# PROGRAM REPORT 2023



## Chief Executive Officer of BLF



**IVANA  
VAGASKÁ**

Pontis Foundation

## President BLF (September 2022 - 2024)



**BARBORA  
ZÁHRADNÍKOVÁ**

Adient

## The BLF Advisory Committee 2022 - 2023

**MONIKA MAJERČIKOVÁ**  
Generali Insurance

**MARTINA MACHÁNKOVÁ**  
**LUCIA VARGOVÁ**  
Kaufland

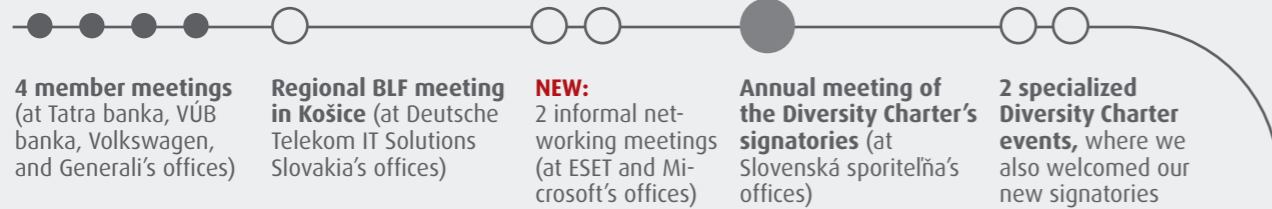
**ANDREJ SÁNTAI**  
SOITRON

**ANDREA UNGVÖLGYI**  
Orange



# Networking

The Business Leaders Forum association is tightly interconnected with its subsidiary platforms – the Diversity Charter, which tackles D&I topics, and Companies to the Community, which focuses on employee volunteering and engagement. Each one of our events revolves around a specific ESG topic. However, we also believe in the power of informal experience sharing through personal meetings:



**BLF Summit 2023**

**CEO meeting** (at Adient's offices)

**NEW:** Regional volunteering conference (Prešov)

**2 sessions of the Companies to the Community working group** (at Allen & Overy and DXC Technology's offices)

**NEW:** 2 trainings focusing on D&I management for signatories of the Diversity Charter



*„Strengthening the mutual relationships between business, civil society and the public sector enables us to deal with the mistrust that pervades our society.“*

**MICHAL VAŠEČKA**  
sociologist (CEO meeting, October 2023)

# Communication

BLF's mission is not only educating and connecting member companies, but also promoting examples of best practice and specific ESG inspiration outside the association. Small businesses, public institutions and the wider public can make use of free access to our outputs and recommendations:

**Lectures by BLF members**  
at the University of Economics in Bratislava



**14**

specialized articles at [www.blf.sk](http://www.blf.sk)



**3**

sets of recommendations for companies, focusing on the following topics: fundraising in companies, age diversity, and disinformation and the role of employers.



**14**

BLF companies participating **The CSR in Practice course** (EN, SK)

**10**

BLF companies participating **The Corporate Governance course**



**3 400+**

followers of BLF's LinkedIn profile



**40+**

mentions in relevant media outlets



**500+**

attendees registered for the BLF Summit, with the option to watch the event online for free



*„The days when companies could remain silent about the goings-on in society are long gone. Even businesses should stand up for the protection of values and the promotion of mutual respect.“*

**MLADEN MITIĆ**  
Slovak Telekom  
(BLF Summit, October 2023)



*„With corporate volunteering, you should start by getting senior managers involved. Active participation of management is essential if you want to get corporate volunteering off the ground.“*

**ANDREA DANIHELOVÁ**  
VSE Holding (Corporate volunteering conference in Prešov, February 2023)



## Topics discussed at BLF events:

- G** The role of the ESG manager in the company
- S** Disinformation and the role of employers
- S** Internal communication of responsible activities in the company
- E** Environmental protection in manufacturing companies
- G** The role of business leaders in times of crisis and a highly polarized society
- E** Effective CO2 offsetting
- G** Trust in Slovakia and the role of business

## Topics discussed at Diversity Charter events:

- S** Gender-inclusive language
- S** A culture of care and attentiveness in the workplace
- S** A psychologically safe environment
- S** Diversity and inclusion strategies
- S** Age diversity in the workplace
- S** LGBTI+ people in the workplace
- S** Temporary positive action measures in the employment of disadvantaged groups
- S** Women in IT: How to support their potential?
- S** Employing people with disabilities
- G** D&I agenda management

## Topics discussed at Companies to the Community events:

- S** How to start with corporate volunteering
- S** Volunteering as a tool to promote well-being
- S** Fundraising in companies
- S** Expert volunteering



## BLF & FOCUS survey: How the Slovak public views corporate social responsibility (September 2023)

The most important activities  
of responsible companies include:

- 26 % | environmental considerations
- 24 % | care for employees and their families
- 20 % | honesty in business

As a priority, companies should  
focus on the following topics:

- 48 % | supporting people with disabilities or social disadvantages
- 45 % | environmental protection
- 40 % | supporting education among the younger generation

Important criteria when choosing employers:

- 63 % | employee benefits beyond legal requirements
- 52 % | a friendly, respectful, and open company atmosphere
- 49 % | meaningful work in line with one's values



„From a long-term perspective, the share  
of surveyed respondents unable to cite  
an example of a responsible company  
operating in Slovakia is gradually  
decreasing. Only 36% of the participants  
were unable to spontaneously name a  
specific socially responsible company (in  
comparison with as much as 71% in 2013).“

MARTIN SLOSIARIK  
FOCUS



### 89% of people

in Slovakia think that in addition  
to focusing on making a profit,  
companies should have **activities**  
going beyond legal requirements.

### Members and supporters

Business Leaders Forum

