PROGRAM REPORT 2024



Chief Executive
Officer of BLF



IVANA
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Pontis Foundation

President BLF (okt. 2022 – 2024)



BARBORA **ZÁHRADNÍKOVÁ** Adient

President BLF (okt. 2024 – 2026)



MARTIN KURUC Tesco

The BLF Advisory Committee

2024 - 2025

LUCIA **VARGOVÁ**Kaufland

TOMÁŠ **KVAŠŇOVSKÝ** Tatra banka

LENKA **MICHÁLIK HOLEŠOVÁ** Volkswagen

> HENRIETA **FABIANOVÁ** ZSE



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 meeting in Košice (at GlobalLogic's offices)

Informal networking meeting (at YIT's offices) Annual meeting of the Diversity Charter's signatories (at ING's offices)

Diversity Day event, where we also welcomed our new signatories (as a part of Forbes Business Fest)

Business Breakfast for the Diversity Charter ambassadors (at Henkel's offices)



Impact Summit 2024 CEO meeting (at Adient's offices)



2 sessions of the Companies to the Community working group (at ČSOB's offices and Centrum rodiny premises) 2 trainings focusing on D&I management for signatories of the Diversity Charter Specialized Diversity Charter event, where we also welcomed our new signatories





Communication

For 20 years, we have been trying to spread good practice and concrete inspiration on the topics of responsible business among BLF members and outside our association. Small businesses, public institutions and the wider public can make use of free access to our outputs and recommendations:





10

specialized articles at www.blf.sk



7

sets of recommendations for companies, focusing on the following topics: inclusion of LGBTI+ people in the workplace, administrative and legal coverage of volunteering.

Lectures by BLF members

at the University of Economics in Bratislava:



11

BLF companies participating in the CSR in Practice course - Slovak version 8

BLF companies participating in the CSR in Practice course - English version



3 700+

followers on BLF LinkedIn



115+

mentions in relevant media outlets



Education

22 topics were discussed at 26 events under the auspices of BLF or with support from BLF. Topics are selected based on the demand and needs of our member companies. These topics are discussed at quarterly member meetings, webinars, online small talks, as well as specialized discussions and conferences. Our professional focus is mainly on topics from the social pillar of ESG. However, we also address the current ESG legislation and reporting:

Topics discussed at BLF events:

- Double materiality in CSRD reporting
- Overview of current ESG legislation
- Greenwashing
- > Innovative employee benefits
- How to be a good donor and have a positive impact on society
- 20 years of (ir)responsible business in Slovakia
- **Effective cooperation with civil society**
- Engaged-oriented corporate communication
- Fostering engagement and critical thinking among employees
- Trust, social cohesion and the role of business (Impact Summit 2024)

Topics discussed at Diversity Charter events:

- European Diversity Barometer & European Diversity Month
- Tips on how to celebrate Diversity Day at work
- Challenges of inclusive language
- > Employing people from abroad
- Diversity a buzzword or an opportunity for positive change (discussion at Forbes Business Fest)
- Challenges of LGBTI+ inclusion in the workplace
- Haters on DEI topics in the workplace
- Inclusive workplace KPIs
- Mental health and wellbeing

Topics discussed at Companies to the Community events:

- How to get started with corporate volunteering
- Administrative and legal coverage of corporate volunteering
- Experiential and transformative volunteering





20 years



"Just 20 years ago, there still wasn't much talk about the concept of corporate responsibility in Slovakia. However, when we engaged in deeper conversations with company representatives, we saw a great hunger for information and being able to exchange knowledge."



BLF Founder, currently Director for Global CSR/ESG at ESET



"I can see how polarized Slovak society is, which is even more evident in the world of digital communication and social media. That is why it's important for the business sector to set a good example and show the positive impact of respecting diversity."

MARTIN KURUC

BLF President & CEO of TESCO STORES SR

20 years of the Business Leaders Forum



May 2004

BLF organizes its first conference titled Corporate Strategy for Successful Business

November 2004 BLF has 11 members

July 2006 BLF has 15 members

Business Leaders Forum association is established on the initiative of the Pontis Foundation

Social Responsibility: A New

Summer 2004

pIn cooperation with the FOCUS agency, BLF conducts the first representative survey of how the Slovak public views responsible business

Spring 2007

The Engage group is established to promote corporate volunteering, and the Naša Bratislava (Our Bratislava) event is held

Apríl 2013 The first set of recommendations for responsible business is published

September 2012

The Fund for a Transparent Slovakia is established on the initiative of several **BLF** members

December 2009

BLF has 22 members

April 2008

BLF organizes its first training educating companies on how to prepare reports in line with the GRI Standards

December 2014

BLF has 32 members



December 2019

BLF has 45 members

December 2024 BLF has 53 members

May 2017

BLF launches the Diversity Charter Slovakia initiative, which aims to promote workplace diversity and inclusion

May 2018

Several BLF members join forces to form the Digital Skills educational initiative

October 2020

The first online CSR Summit takes place, reaching 1200+ registered attendees

Members 2024











































































































