

UN Global Compact

Communication on Engagement

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THE COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

Time period covered by this COE: 2017 - 2020

STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

I am delighted to state that the University of Economics and Management in Prague, Czech Republic reaffirms its support to the UN Global Compact and the ten principles regarding human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Since the beginning of our institution's commitment, we have supported the Global Compact advancing these principles, and we have made a clear statement of our commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

We also pledge to continue in participating in and engaging with the UN Global Compact in the following way(s):

- Conduct applied research to advance best practices especially through the Research Centre for Economic Studies VŠEM and the Centre for Innovation Studies VŠEM.
- Promote the UN Global Compact Ten Principles and educate students and the general public about sustainability.
- Support UN Global Compact business participants especially those engaged locally in implementing and reporting on their sustainability efforts.
- Lend capacity to Global Compact Local Network Czech Republic.
- Join the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) for more information.

In proof of our dedication to the UN Global Compact, we enclose a Communication on Engagement (COE) that describes our organization's efforts to support the implementation of the ten principles and to engage with the Global Compact.

Kind regards,

Jitka Valášková Executive Director



PRACTICAL ACTIONS

Our institution, The University of Economics and Management in Prague, has been taking various ways of supporting the UN Global Compact principles, which will be described in the following section.

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

The University of Economics and Management (VŠEM) focuses on the importance of increasing the quality of human resources for enhancing the growth potential and competitiveness of economy. VŠEM offers educational programs in the areas of economics and management and strives to implement them at internationally comparable professional levels via creative interaction of pedagogical, research, publishing, and awareness-rising activities.

The main mission and objective of VŠEM is to be an independent higher education institution. The educational process at VŠEM involves conveying information on development and current trends in line with the concepts and approaches to innovative study programs. The objective is to prepare graduates for successful career in increasingly competitive environment of the integrated and globalized world. We encourage students' personal and professional growth by supporting their self-confidence and social responsibility. We help them to put their ambitions and personal beliefs into effect and maintain international ethical standards. The processes at our university involve conveying information on development and current trends in line with the concepts and approach of individual programs and projects reflecting competitive environment of the integrated and globalized world.

The mission of the University is to train men and women for meaningful careers in business, as such, its faculty consists of both academic credential faculty as well as industry practitioners. The mission of the University is fulfilled by this strategic and intention mix of faculty pool. Both bring a rich perspective to their teaching and scholarship.

Our stated values are (in alphabetical order)

- Clarity
- Ethics
- Equality
- Giving chance to study to everyone
- Individualism, individual approach
- Modern approach, use of modern technologies and teaching-learning methods
- Openness
- Orientation on practice
- Problem solving
- Progressivity
- Support and understanding
- Social responsibility
- Quality

As a service and consistent with its mission to provide access to all, VŠEM also has targeted groups that would have otherwise been excluded from higher education. Other than main target groups, VŠEM focuses on small niche segments of specific, disabled or disadvantaged students:



- Educational offer VŠEM focuses on the needs, interests and potential of students, including exceptionally talented (support of talented students in the form of scholarship, Elite program VŠEM, student placements, etc.), but also disadvantaged students. Diversified education will make it possible to achieve a clear added value and knowledge, skills and competences by all students, regardless of their social and economic background, age, nationality, previous educational or professional experience, or special needs caused by health or other difficulties.
- Students with socio-economic disadvantage are supported under a scholarship program (Scholarship VŠEM). VŠEM grants scholarships to single mothers / single-parent families, employees of non-profit organizations, health and social facilities. Students can also use the above mentioned counseling. A student with socio-economic disadvantages is already identified within the admission procedure and his/her subsequent application for a scholarship. Students with physical disabilities are also not disadvantaged because VŠEM is located in a modern barrier-free building.
- VŠEM is focused on the availability of the study for everyone. The aim is to enable equal access to higher education, where the removal of disabilities in access to education emphasizes on removal of barriers to access education by providing support to handicapped students in the form of scholarships, material support and a special approach. VŠEM is thus attempting to inspire other providers of tertiary education to take a similar approach.
- Since 2002, VŠEM has been supporting handicapped students. They can receive a scholarship up to 100% of the study fees. The scholarships apply to all VŠEM study programs taking place in the given academic year, with the fact that each scholarship is tied to the fulfillment of specified conditions. Students are offered an alternative how to pass exams (e.g. oral exam or handwritten test). The effort is also to develop a learning support system to facilitate access to education for all. At VŠEM, numerous students with specific needs have already studied and have successfully completed their studies based on individual treatment.

The long-term objective is to eliminate different entry conditions for applicants due to health disability, difficult life situations, social status or unequal conditions in the applicant's country of origin and to support them also during university studies. VŠEM supports mainly students with excellent study results or exceptionally talented students, veterans of the Czech Republic according to Act No. 170/2000 Coll., Sport-talented students, handicapped students, single mothers, students from non-profit organizations, health and social organizations, students in extremely difficult situation, foreign students coming from countries with non-democratic regimes and others.

University of Economics and Management is aware of the obligations resulting from its position as one of the leading private educational institutions and therefore is fully aware of its responsibility to foster legal and ethical behavior amongst all of its constituents including faculty, staff and partners. Everyone abides by the University Code of Conduct (See Code https://en.VŠEM.cz/data/data/VŠEMattached in Evidence file or at eng/code of study and examination.pdf). VŠEM understands that education is straight connected to responsibility and general as well as professional ethics. Therefore, VŠEM does not tolerate unethical behavior of its students, employees or business partners. VŠEM supports freedom of thinking, research, expression of opinions and ideas. It supports equal opportunities, by means of the project Studies at VŠEM, it stresses elimination of obstacles on the path to education by providing support to the handicapped or otherwise unprivileged students.

VŠEM cooperates with the non-profit organization Člověk v tísni (People in Need) and participates in several short-term and long-term projects. The cooperation has led to the project VŠEM in Africa, aiming to eliminate illiteracy in African countries. VŠEM realizes, that sharing information is extremely important. Therefore, it supports the project Post Bellum,



the Memory of Nation, aiming to make information concerning history of the 20th century available to public. VŠEM sees its social responsibility in relation to the environment and endeavor to respect the rules of organic behavior. VŠEM is not just trying to consistently meet obligations arising from the promotion of the concept of social responsibility, but tries to pass these basic ethical, moral and social principles on its students.

VŠEM as an educational institution has long been aware of the importance of ethics and ethical behavior in light of its social responsibility and is taking steps to achieve it not only in the direction of providing education. It is the strategic priority and VŠEM implements the following activities within the ethics, social, economic pillars:

1. Ethics

Ethical Code focuses on definition of behavior of students, teachers and other stakeholders and Evidence File their relations Ethical Code attached in (see or at https://www.VSEM.cz/data/data/vnitrni-predpisy/Eticky_kodex_VSEM.pdf and Code of https://en.VŠEM.cz/data/data/VŠEM-Conduct/Study at: eng/code of study and examination.pdf).

- 2. Social Pillar
- a. Activities aimed at the general public
- Courses free of charge VŠEM provides professional courses for students and for the public, some of which are directly related to the principles of social policy; also in the form of MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses).
- Project Guests VŠEM The lecture cycle, in which famous persons/social and economic "stars" are invited to the campus of VŠEM to share their own experience through discussion or lecture. The lectures took place in relation to the social policy such as Michael Žantovský (Václav Havel Library Director), Ondřej Vondráček (European Commission, Transparency International), Jan Straka (Bonus Foundation), Tomáš Sedláček (leading Czech Philosophical economist and Advisor of the Government) and others.
- Collaboration with graduates Club of graduates, free access to vocational courses and video-learning, annual meetings of graduates, invitations to events, development of cooperation, professional involvement of graduates and cooperating institutions, offer of internships for students, practice, possibility of peer-review activities.
- Collaboration with practice cooperation with companies in the provision of short-term practices and long-term internships for VŠEM students or involvement of practitioners in teaching, deeper systematic interconnection of theoretical and practical teaching.
- Start-Up VŠEM professional support to start-up entrepreneurs in a modern environment, with financial support, business start-up facilities, mentors and consultants.
- Access to information upgraded web and information system open the possibility to make full use of all the interactive elements.
- Extended offer of services to students, academics, or other interested parties (in the form of an E-shop, but also by other means).
- Publishing activity and extension of the number of titles.
- Science Days Regular meetings with the academic community and the public to popularize and present scientific, research and development activities currently carried out at VŠEM and within the framework of grant projects of CES VŠEM. Popularization and transfer of results into practice, including the extension of the impact of innovative activities.
- Online open access magazine Economic papers publishing up-to-date information from economics, management and related directions.
- Regular public grant competition for academics, students and public in the field of basic and applied research in the focus of economics and management.
- Life Long learning (LLL), namely the possibility of studying selected subjects or modules of accredited study programs.



- Job offers VŠEM acts as an employer and provides employment opportunities to academic, administrative and technical workers on the labor market.
- Employment of handicapped or disadvantaged persons Providing opportunities to disadvantaged or with specific needs or disabilities.
- Employee development VŠEM takes care of its employees and offers a number of benefits and opportunities for professional and personal development, emphasizing flexibility and modern access to employment.

b. Activities supporting students

- Obligatory/voluntary (elective) study subjects within accredited study programs.
- Optional study subjects Study subjects beyond the obligatory structure of study. Students have the possibility to choose according to their preferences. All these courses are realized in the form of seminars, workshops, lectures, excursions and with a significant overlap over the managerial and economic framework.
- Elite Program development of talented students who are actively interested in their studies and their future professional experience through mediation of close cooperation with specific companies for selected job positions. Students can also receive a 10,000 Euro scholarship and an annual study stay at MSB School of Business, Montreux, Switzerland.
- Access to information information system offers possibilities to make full use of all the interactive elements (e-learning, video-learning, on-line testing, consultations etc.).
- Extended offer of services to students, academics, or other interested parties (in the form of an E-shop, but also by other means).
- Publishing activity and extension of the number of titles.
- Students have the opportunity to attend optional and free language courses.
- Measures to reduce academic failure simplifying administration studies, the establishment of methodological seminars, limiting the number of students per academic staff, emphasis on ongoing consultations, mandatory introductory seminars on trimestral basis where students are familiarized with the timetable mandatory workshops on study skills where they are discussed main habits and preparation of plans, emphasis on continuous consultation and linking students with teachers and mentors; mandatory Bachelor / Diploma seminar that brings the student input on the process leading to successfully complete study requirements and obtain a degree.
- Scholarship programs scholarships VŠEM apply to all study programs implemented by VŠEM in the given academic year; granting scholarships to support access to higher education in the Czech Republic and "breaking" barriers to entry applicants to the university environment, thus the possibility of obtaining high-quality vocational higher education, individual study and examination plan, financial, material and methodological support.
- Support for students with special needs disabled students have the opportunity to receive a scholarship up to 100% of study fees. In addition, to support VŠEM scholarships and individual approach, students are offered an alternative to pass exams per subjects (e.g. oral exam or handwritten test). The VŠEM building is also fully barrier-free.
- Support for students with socio-economic disadvantage support under a scholarship program.
- Babysitting for students scholarships for single mothers; students can use services provided by VŠEM Kindergarten, which offer long-term and short-term babysitting at preferential prices (free within 1 hour).
- Promoting mobility and internationalization within the Erasmus+ program.
- Code of Conduct VŠEM summarizing the rules of conduct and behavior of students, academics and the whole academic community and representing a set of values and principles that are honored at the campus of VŠEM (see <u>https://en.VŠEM.cz/data/data/VŠEM-eng/code of study and examination.pdf</u>).



- Internal quality assessment based on feedback from students, emphasis on student expressions.
- 3. Economical Pillar

VŠEM is based on stable, transparent and efficient funding. Investment and development focuses on the objective of modernizing space, improving information security and services for students and academics.

Another priority of VŠEM is the effort to maintain a similar level of financial intensity of implemented activities in order to keep study fees (tuition fees) at the current level. VŠEM is fully aware of the fundamental political and economic trends in the Czech society regarding financing of science and education. For these trends, VŠEM responds to the offer of different levels of service (so-called "packages") for students, where each student will be able to choose his/her level of tuition fees and corresponding services. The basic idea remains to preserve the financial demands of the study while maintaining its quality and level of related services.

VŠEM has also created several programs that directly impact society through its program offering, services and operations, as listed below:

- Accelerator VŠEM an acceleration program for students and the public, supporting the start of business and providing mentor services, start-up and business development consultants.
- Kindergarten VŠEM kindergarten is open to the public and offers short and long term babysitting.
- Support for exceptionally gifted students VŠEM provides a special environment creating individual learning plans allow, on the one hand, faster study (concurrent study of more modules), or study two programs at the same time and on the other hand, deeper specialization support for individual consultations if necessary, interdisciplinary and inter-university studies, awards for the best works/thesis – students receive a voucher for one year of study or whole study period for free. Individual academics in collaboration with vice-rectors identify exceptional and talented students who are then supported by individual approach, possibility of engaging in projects – both research and commercial, to enable them further development.
- Advisory individual consultations of professionals in the areas of professional, psychological, pedagogical, financial and legal counseling and coaching of studies (combining studies and other activities). Student counseling is realized through individual consultations either through written contact or in person at VŠEM.
- The Cultural and Educational Center of the City of Prague 13 for the local community, a wide range of activities are being prepared - public lectures and debates, free counseling or operation of the children's group as support for reconciling study, work and family life.
- VŠEM in Africa supporting the construction and function of elementary schools in Africa.
- Sponsoring VŠEM sponsors various beneficial projects and activities, among others: Memory of Nation, Post Bellum.

The impacts on society is the following (other than above mentioned):

- Higher competitiveness of graduates and students
- Higher level of education/university graduates within Czech economy
- Better use of time of young generation
- Increasing level of knowledge in Czech society
- Support education and free time activities of students and community
- Provides kindergarten for students and community
- Offer free courses for public
- Support young entrepreneurs



- Financing projects and sponsoring
- Etc.

The main added values which is proven by students, applicants and graduates are:

- Flexibility in lessons and examination (exam terms every day, 7 days a week)
- Part time study only on weekends
- Distance and online education
- Flexible consultations and consultancy
- Possibility to prolong studies
- Both Czech/European and US degrees obtained at the graduation
- Flexible study plan
- Individual study plan
- Interesting specializations (HR, marketing) which are not usually offered by HEIs
- Focus on connection between theory and practice
- Lecturers from management of companies
- Practically oriented lessons (most of Public and State HEIs are only oriented academically and on theory)

Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

The strategic goal of VŠEM is also development of academic staff. The intention is to continuously increase level of competencies and expertise in accordance with trends and development of economy and of the higher education in the international environment. The aim of VŠEM is to connect high-quality and motivated professionals with progressive orientation on further development, orientation in the current ever-changing business environment and market, while emphasizing the human aspect and individual approach to students and other employees and stakeholders of VŠEM. Academic staff will be further motivated for career advancement and their own initiative on possible ways of development, organizing open professional courses, and working with the municipality and other educational institutions in community. The main areas of implementation of the third role of the school continue to include the offer of lifelong learning, application of research and development results, information and counseling services and involvement in public life. Priority is the continuous development of the offer of professional education, both on-campus and interactive courses MOOC (Massive open on-line courses).

All faculty staff are professionals with both education credentials and years of practice. Attention is paid to equality in gender, age and diversity among teaching, research activities, experiences and agenda. VŠEM has an established process in place to listen and make current is academic and non-academic educational services relating to its directions. This includes but limited to students' surveys, faculty input, alumni surveys and employers inputs. All initiatives and feedback systems, questionnaires and surveys of students, teachers, alumni, and stakeholders are periodically reviewed by faculty, and the VŠEM academic management team in regularly scheduled meetings. Minimum review period is one year.



The current system is reviewed to be in line with the strategy and current policies. When changes are implemented in strategy and development, the evaluation and feedback systems are reviewed as well. On the other hand, an emphasis is paid to the continuity of all feedback systems and the possibility to get trends and development of responses. Therefore, changes are made with regard to keep the results comparable and to be able to evaluate trends.

All processes were created based on faculty input, academic research of scientific evaluation methods of higher education institutions. Therefore, the output should be relevant and is successfully used for more than 6 years.

The University's Strategic Plan is supported by its addition of human resources, these include both academic and non-academic resources. The academic staff is continuously expanded by new colleagues with a view to long-term cooperation and further career development. VŠEM focuses on long-term cooperation with teachers, academics and external teachers (adjuncts) from practice (providing practical lessons and complements teaching of subjects), and contracts are for an indefinite period. Each teacher contributes to a lesson in a given study program for a maximum of 3 subjects that are regularly distributed over the course of the academic year. The hours of teaching and creative activity are evenly distributed according to the employee's hours in the contract and are regularly spread throughout the year.

The working hours and the volume of activity of the employees correspond to the requirements; for academic staff and guarantors, the full-time employment is always required and is set as long-term with undefined. Study programs are sufficiently staffed in terms of the validity of its accreditation and the prospects for its development. Gradually, new academics with a scientific rank, creative activity and development potential across age structure, gender or other specifics are recruited to ensure continuity and gradual transfer of activities from elderly academic staff. Emphasis is placed on gradual upbringing of guarantors and their career development.

For all academic staff, working time, age, qualifications, current work abroad or in practice are taken into account in the volume of activities, teaching and other creative activities. These areas are in line with study objectives, curricula and profiles where the activities are spread over the course of the academic year so that synergies and balances can be achieved in these factors and activities. At the same time, academic staff are supported in creative activities and creative holidays, when it is possible to structure the teaching in selected quarters based on an agreement and leave other trimesters free for creative activity.

VŠEM serves a unique role in the higher education market in the Czech Republic. It provides a quality education to those students who are seeking a specific entry in the professional world. The University provides the flexibility, program offerings, and practical training to enter the professional world. This is the target market of VŠEM. As such, the University has actively recruited students who seek to accelerate their education and enter the labor market to begin their careers. VŠEM has focused its efforts on developing the next generation of business leaders, entrepreneurs, and thought leaders in the field of industry and commerce in the Czech Republic. VŠEM has chosen to serve this segment of the market given the nations' national priorities as well as current market conditions. VŠEM sees its role in the development of these students as a service to the nations' national economic development.

The University periodically review all stakeholders' satisfaction every trimester using surveys, interviews, focus groups and other research methods, see attached in Evidence file for example of survey. The feedback from external stakeholders, partners and projects is reviewed every year. All initiatives and feedback systems, questionnaires and surveys of students, teachers, alumni, and stakeholders are periodically reviewed by VŠEM management. Results and comments are discussed and send directly to the teachers or employees who were addressed. If a serious comments or declination of evaluation occur, it is discussed personally between the



addressed teacher/employee and Vice-rectors. The reasons and consequences are discussed together with improvement plan.

The University complies with the National HEI Law which governs teaching hours, administrative duties, supervision of thesis, and/or other academic or non-academic functions. All teachers are teaching courses together with other obligations at the maximum level which was listed above (following the National HEI law 111/1998 Coll. and internal rules limiting maximum load and maximum number of students). If a member of teaching staff has other responsibilities, the teaching load is limited for that period or teachers can ask for free semester for other related activities, which is outlined by Motivational Program at VŠEM.

Environment

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

VŠEM is aware of its role in education and is therefore an example in the following activities:

- Waste sorting throughout the building.
- All documents (including study literature and other study materials) in electronic form with minimal paper consumption for printing.
- Energy saving and its effective use only for justified activities.
- Prevention of environmental pollution by communication with employees and students.
- Teaching CSR principles within all study programs.
- Installation of filtered water dispenser into Student Club VŠEM to reduce a number of plastic bottles used by students.

Students of VŠEM also organize and/or take part in various environmental-friendly activities, e.g.:

- Slow Fashion Week in a week-long event, a student of VŠEM gave option to her colleagues to learn about recycling old clothes to produce a new pieces of clothing during workshops.
- Waste collection around the VŠEM building an event organized by a student who gathered volunteers and cleaned the surroundings of the university building and near area. Also this event was realized in co-operation with the local municipality.
- Stubchaser a project of Accelerator VŠEM which came up with an idea of a special target-like basket for cigarette stubs. These special baskets have been already installed in many places in Prague, including the VŠEM building, where it serves mainly for VŠEM students who started to use it immediately instead of throwing the stubs on the ground.
- Currently, another student of VŠEM, who works for a start-up dedicated to improvement of waste management, prepares a lecture for other students to explain why it is necessary to protect our environment and how to live in a sustainable way. However, this event was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation.
- Charity collection of clothes, shoes, bags, toys, sport equipment, and other household items whose proceeds from sale were given for example to a day-care centre Ondrášek, a project Czech bikes for Gambian schools, or Czech Coalition for Biodiversity Conservation, etc. This charity collection was realized as a part of the GivingTuesdayCZ challenge.
- In the current academic year, a student of VŠEM is preparing a project enlightening about the importance of blood and bone marrow donations. Blood donation activities



already started in the spring, when several students decided to donate their blood even during the pandemic situation.

The Research Centre for Economic Studies VŠEM became a beneficiary in European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), more precisely in the Operational Program Employment (OPE), whose aim is to improve the human capital of the population and public administration in the Czech Republic, i.e. the basic elements of competitiveness. CR must pay attention to these areas if it wants to succeed in today's complex world. OPE is aimed also at promoting equal opportunities for women and men, the adaptability of employees and employers, further education, social inclusion and combating poverty, health services, modernization of public administration and services, and promote international cooperation and social innovation in the field of employment, social inclusion and public administration.

- Accelerator VŠEM for creation and growth of capacities focused on development and diffusion of innovations is a programme which supports start-up businesses and companies with a short history. This programme consists of activities from multiple fields, e.g. education, workshops, consultancy and personal development. The aim of the Accelerator VŠEM is to contribute to sustainable future.
- SIMPAKT Data Platform of Social Impact is a project that introduces the evaluation of social intervention impact via data platform toll into a practice of organisations in the Czech Republic and by that increases their efficiency.
- Foundation Vodafone 2.0 Laboratory is an incubation and acceleration programme that increases economic and social impact of organisations that create and/or scale social innovations with the employment of technologies.

Modernization of the education is realized through the online interactive Video-learning application, which is available to all students for all compulsory and voluntary subjects (electives). These are recorded lectures with core theories and tests for the subject/course, including the completion of key concepts, study texts, presentations and tests with the evaluation of correct answers. Important is also the on-line communication platform between students and teachers - VideoForum, which is used for further contacts with teachers and for consultations. Students have online access to the Library of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, including access to all scientific electronic databases (e.g. Scopus, Ebsco, Web of Science, ProQuest and others).

In line with the objective of preparing high-quality graduates, VŠEM emphasizes the development of teaching quality and learning outcomes that are continuously monitored within the internal quality assurance system. The information obtained gives the feedback needed to improve the quality of the study programs and serves to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the institution, learning concepts, relevant theories and knowledge. The evaluation is also used for the continuous improvement of the teaching process and the development of the study support, academic staff and the technical and organizational support of the study.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Business should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

VŠEM has an established process that monitor all regulatory and legal compliances, which includes the following process, adhered to by all students, faculty and staff:



- VŠEM complies with all Ministry of Education, the Czech Republic and is required to report any regulatory issues pertaining to its teaching, operations and strategic directions.
- All VŠEM activities are periodically reported to external audit (financial and national and international accreditation agencies).
- All processes are revised in accordance with the EU regulations (GDPR requirements etc.).
- All requirements and contracts with students, partners and other stakeholders are periodically (annually) revised by lawyers and are in written form and contain references to the actual law which is related to it.
- All students, partners and other stakeholders can recall or object and their case is discussed within Administrative Committee, Disciplinary Committee or Revision Committee.
- Other requirements are solved at Czech court.
- All thesis and papers are checked for plagiarism by online tool Odevzdej.cz.
- In cooperation with Anti-Corruption Foundation (Nadační fond proti korupci), VŠEM has realized several workshops on topic "Transparent companies and institutions" in September 2018. The workshops were intended for those who are not indifferent to the environment they live and do business in, and they were well attended (circa 100 people).



MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

- The University of Economics and Management has recently acquired the prolongation of accreditations on both national and international level (up until year 2030).
- In November 2019, VŠEM hosted the ACBSP Region 8 Fall Conference that was attended by the representatives of business universities from all around the world (e.g. the USA, the UAE, Switzerland, France, etc.). Among many very interesting speeches, there was for example one on sustainability of universities by Jaroslav Pašmik, Head of the Centre of Sustainability Management, or many speeches on social or technological innovations.
- We have continued to intensify a co-operation with lectors with professional experiences so that our students have an opportunity to see how it is to work in fields such as business, management, marketing, etc. Also, we have extended the co-operation with various organizations (e.g. Google, Siemens, Coca-Cola, Deloitte, Czech Olympic Committee and more than 150 others) where our students may complete their compulsory practical training.
- VŠEM wants to provide its students with modern technologies that would enhance the
 accessibility and interactivity of education. For example, we have implemented online
 courses into the study structure and we also have introductory video lessons for each
 offered subject. Thus even students with a distance form of study have similar
 possibilities as students who study full-time. During the COVID-19 situation, we have
 also improved our online means so that students were not disadvantaged in their
 studies.
- In co-operation with ERASMUS+ Programme, we enable our students to study abroad and we also accept foreign students to spend a part of their study at VŠEM. VŠEM has a co-operational contract with more than 40 universities from 20 countries. In years 2017-2019, we have accepted 97 students (mostly from Germany, Poland, France, Spain but also e.g. Romania and Turkey). In 2020, we have accepted only 4 foreign students due to the coronavirus crisis.
- To prevent obstacles connected with the visa obtaining process, VŠEM offers the MBA, BBA and MSc. study programmes accredited by ACBSP also in distance form (both in Czech and English language). It means that students may start studying at VŠEM disregarding where they live at the moment and their physical presence at school is required only for the state final exams.
- With respect to obviating plagiarism both in seminar papers and final theses, VŠEM uses
 a software (odevzdej.cz) that checks whether bibliographic references are made
 accordingly to the copyright law. If there is a discrepancy, student is interrogated during
 a disciplinary procedure which may result in a conditional expulsion from the university.



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