Metropolitan Region on the Danube
Increasingly, the regions of Europe are in competition not only to acquire the foreign investment that is crucial to further development but also to win a share of the tourism sector. The Bratislava Region is the most developed region in Slovakia and is one of the most economically productive regions in the European Union. It has a dense, well-developed transport system including motorways, rail corridors and of course the famous waterway, the Danube, all of which are routes of European importance. The presence of universities, research centres, technology centres and industrial parks gives the region strong potential in research and innovation. These facts illustrate the favourable conditions awaiting potential investors who are interested in our region.

The Bratislava Region is not just a place for investors but offers a range of attractions, heritage and experiences for tourists from all over the world. The most important tourist centre is the capital city of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava, which offers a very large number of tourist attractions, from historic monuments to a huge variety of cultural events. The Little Carpathian Wine Route offers events throughout the year for wine lovers. The Little Danube and the River Morava are great places to pass time on or by the water. These are just a few of the attractive locations that are worth a visit in our region.

I believe that both the cultural and natural beauty of our region will impress you, as well as our favourable business environment. We look forward to meeting you.

Pavol Frešo
president of the Bratislava Self-Governing Region
About Slovakia

**Slovakia** – a country in central Europe with an area of **49 036 km²** and around **5 415 949** inhabitants.

Interesting facts:
- Slovakia produces **THE MOST CARS PER HEAD** of any country in the world (**181** cars per thousand inhabitants)
- **THE LARGEST wooden altar** in the world – St James' church in **Levoča**
- **THE LARGEST castle complex** in Europe – **Spis Castle**
- **A UNIQUE cold-water geyser** in Europe – **Herlany Geyser**
- **THE SMALLEST Alpine mountain range** – **the High Tatras**
- **6,200 known caves**
- **more than 1,200 mineral water springs**
The Bratislava Region covers the western part of the Slovak Republic and the longest part of its border is with Austria. It includes parts of the Danube Lowlands, the Záhorie Lowlands and the hills of the Little Carpathians. 

The area of the Bratislava Region is 2,052.6 km². Its territory is made up of 8 districts: 5 municipal districts within the city of Bratislava (BA I-V) plus the districts of Malacky, Senec and Pezinok. The region includes 73 villages and 7 towns (Bratislava, Malacky, Stupava, Pezinok, Sv. Jur, Modra, Senec). 82.07% of the population is urban.

The Bratislava Region covers 4.19% of the area of the Slovak Republic, making it the smallest region in Slovakia.
International Context

CENTROPE – the Central European Region is a unique international economic area

- A population of 6.5 million in 8 federal provinces, regions and counties, speaking 4 languages
- Territory covering 44,500 km²
- 2 capital cities – Bratislava and Vienna, Twin City agglomeration (60 km)

The Danube Strategy brings together 9 Member States of the European Union and 5 non-members. Its main pillars are:

- Connecting the Danube Region
- Environmental protection in the Danube Region
- Developing prosperity in the Danube Region
- Strengthening the Danube Region

DO YOU HAVE A FEW DAYS OFF AND FEEL LIKE GOING ON A TRIP?
Population

- Population density is **301.2** inhabitants per km²; the overall population is **618,380**
- Pre-productive age: **14.79%**
- Productive: **70.54%**
- Post-productive: **14.67%**
- Percentage of population in Bratislava: **67.49%**
- Percentage of the overall population of Slovakia living in the region: **11.42%**

Composition by nationality:
- Slovak – **89.9%**, Hungarian – **3.9%**, Czech – **1.4%**, German – **0.3%** & other – **4.5%**
Transport and Accessibility

Bratislava Region, especially the city of Bratislava, is a good location for access to Vienna, Budapest and Brno.

Bratislava is an important transport hub that can be reached by all forms of transport.

3 TEN-T corridors cross the region:

- **The Baltic-Adriatic Corridor:**
  Vienna – Bratislava – Žilina

- **The Orient/East – Med Corridor:**
  Prague – Bratislava – Budapest

- **The Rhine – Danube Corridor:**
  Vienna – Bratislava – Budapest
Transport and Accessibility

The density of the road network in the region is 0.391 km/km², which is slightly above the Slovak average, 0.366 km/km².

The total length of roads in the region is 802.4 km.

From 2015 construction of the D4 motorway bypass and the R7 express road are planned in the territory of the region. These new roads will relieve the Bratislava’s overloaded existing bypass and provide faster access to Bratislava, especially from the direction of Dunajská Streda. A new connection between the D4 and the R1 to Nitra is being planned.

There is 49.5 km of single track railways and 199.3 km of double track railways in the region.

The integrated transport system for the Bratislava Region, which was inaugurated in 2013, permits travellers to use a single ticket for journeys on regional buses operated by Slovak Lines, a.s., trains operated by Železničná spoločnosť Slovensko, a.s. and city buses operated by Dopravný podnik Bratislava, a.s.
The Bratislava Region is one of the top ten richest regions in the European Union; GDP per capita at purchasing power parity is **46,648.60 €**.

The average salary in the Bratislava Region is **1,205 €**.

The Bratislava Region has the lowest unemployment in Slovakia; at approximately **6.17%**, it is less than half the average unemployment rate in Slovakia, which is around **13.5%**.

The number of economically active persons: **338,789**
Economy

The most important industries in the Bratislava Region are the manufacture of transport equipment, the chemical industry and oil refining, the food industry, electrical engineering and mechanical engineering.

The largest employers in the Bratislava Region:
The Bratislava Region has the largest inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI) in Slovakia. In 2013 FDI inflows amounted to 487.7 million €, which is more than 72% of all Slovakia’s foreign direct investment in 2013.

Industrial parks increase the attractiveness of the region for potential investors. There are currently 4 industrial parks in the Bratislava Region:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industrial park</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Available space (ha)</th>
<th>Type of IP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DNV Logistics park</td>
<td>Bratislava</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>BF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Park Eurovalley</td>
<td>Malacky</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>GF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial/Logistic Park PointPark</td>
<td>Lozorno</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>BF/GF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logististic park Senec</td>
<td>Senec</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>BF/GF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tourism and Culture

The Bratislava Region receives the most visits of any Slovak region. In 2013 it attracted 947,730 visitors, which is more than 23% of the total number of tourists in Slovakia.

Foreign tourists made up around 68% of all visitors. The most numerous groups included Czech, German, Austrian, British and Polish tourists.

Number of overnight stays: 1,919,823, average length of stay: 2.02 nights

Cultural life in the region is carried on in 25 theatres, 102 cultural education establishments, 26 museums, 3 galleries and 74 public libraries.
Tourism and Culture

- Červený Kameň
- Habánsky dvor
- The Manor House at Stupava
- A bicycle bridge
- Military bunkers

A major attraction is the **Little Carpathian wine route**, which links a number of phenomena – the wine, landscape, history and gastronomy of the wine region in the foothills of the Little Carpathians. The traditional grape varieties are **Green Veltliner** and **Blue Frankish**. As for Bratislava-based typical culinary specialties, the **Pressburger Crescents** originating from the late 18th century and known worldwide for their unique taste have to be mentioned.

There are many other famous and lesser known events for visitors to enjoy:

- Bratislava Coronation Festival
- Bratislava Jazz Days
- Goose feasts in Slovenský Grob
- Stupava Cabbage Festival
- Pezinok Wine Harvest Festival
Tourism and Culture

The region offers a number of attractions for those who love water sports:

- Boating on the **River Morava** and the **Little Danube**
- The white-water canoe slalom course at **Čunove** is an ideal place to get a dose of adrenalin
- During the summer you can cool down in the natural lakes at **Zlaté Piesky**
- If you are looking for year-round bathing there is an aquapark at **Senec**
Cycle routes play an important role in the region. There are currently 40 cycle routes with a total length of over 683 km.

2 major European cycle routes pass through our region:
- **EuroVelo 6** linking the Atlantic Ocean to the Black Sea
- **EuroVelo 13** referred to in our territory as the Iron Curtain Trail

The most important cycling-related project in our region in recent times was the construction of the **Freedom Cycling Bridge**, linking the Austrian village of Schloßhof with the Devínska Nová Ves district of Bratislava.
The Bratislava Region has a dense network of basic and secondary schools. There are currently 153 basic schools in the region attended by 42,081 pupils. The network of secondary schools is made up of 119 school establishments attended by a total of 35,122 students. The majority of students attend a grammar school or business academy. The Bratislava Self-Governing Region is the controlling authority for 57 school establishments. Bratislava is an important centre for higher education. It is the seat of 12 higher education institutions, of which 5 are public bodies, 5 are private institutions and 2 are operated by state institutions.

The most important higher education institutions are:

- Comenius University in Bratislava
- Slovak Technical University in Bratislava
- University of Economics in Bratislava
- Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava
- Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava
Education, Science and Research

Percentages of secondary school students in various areas

Level of education of the population (%)
Education, Science and Research

Approximately 50% of the scientific research workers in all Slovakia work in Bratislava. Nearly 70% of scientific research results and around 83% of publications for all Slovakia come from researchers in the Bratislava Region.

The Regional Innovation Strategy of the Bratislava Region for the years 2014 – 2020 has defined 3 priority areas that the region will focus on:

- New materials (nanotechnology)
- Information and communication technologies
- Biomedicine and biotechnologies
Science and technology parks:

- **Centre for applied research of new materials and technology transfer of the Slovak Academy of Sciences** – its purpose is to support the development of research and development institutions and the scientific and technical infrastructure for them and to encourage cooperation in applied research and development in the academic sector.

- **University Science Park of Comenius University in Bratislava** – technically equipped primarily for the field of molecular medicine and biotechnology.

- **The STU University Science Park "Slovak Silicon Valley"** – focussing on research in the fields of information and communications technologies, electrical engineering, automation and control systems, nano-electronics and photonics.
Environment

Despite its small area and the fact that it includes the capital city of the Slovak Republic, the Bratislava Region manages to find room in its territory for 61 small protected territories and 3 large protected territories (PLA):

- The protected landscape area **Malé Karpaty** (Little Carpathians)
- The protected landscape area **Záhorie**
- The protected landscape area **Dunajské Luhy**

Total area of PLA that enter the territory of the Bratislava region is **47,834** hectare, which is approximately **23.3%** of the total area of the Bratislava region. Regarding waste management in the Bratislava region is recovered to **63.36%** of municipal waste, which is significantly higher proportion compared to other regions in Slovakia.
### Tasks and Responsibilities of the Bratislava Self-Governing Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Education</strong></th>
<th><strong>Regional development</strong></th>
<th><strong>Health care</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- it is responsible for 57 of the total of 120 secondary schools in the Bratislava Region</td>
<td>- it coordinates regional development and the preparation of strategic documents</td>
<td>- the region operates one general clinic in Karlova Ves and a hospital and general clinic in Malacky</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Social services</strong></th>
<th><strong>Culture and tourism</strong></th>
<th><strong>Transport</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- the region operates 15 social service establishments and finances another 16 non-public providers and 25 non-state subjects</td>
<td>- the region operates 7 cultural establishments and the Regional Tourist Board</td>
<td>- the region has 511 km of second and third class roads under its management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strategic objectives 2020:**
- Knowledge-based economy development
- Development of services and tourism
- Integrated and ecological transport and reducing energy intensity
- Environmental quality improvement

**Global objective 2020:**
- Increasing the innovation performance of the Bratislava region within the European area
Contacts

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