## Celebrations of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Slovak Statistical and Demographic Society

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On 18–20 June 2018, ceremonial conference on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Slovak Statistical and Demographic Society (SSDS) took place under the auspices of the President of the Slovak Republic. The conference was held at Papiernička near Častá municipality, a purpose built facility at the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic. The conference was opened by Iveta Stankovičová, President of the Slovak Statistical and Demographic Society. Then, the participants of the Conference were greeted by Hana Řezanková, Vice President of the Czech Statistical Society, Jitka Langhamrová, President of the Czech Demographic Society and by Mr. Andrej Piovarči, head of the university education department of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic. Peter Mach delivered greetings from Viktor Milata, President of the Council of Slovak Scientific Societies at the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

The first contribution providing the information on Bratislava self-governing region was presented by Silvia Szabová, head of the Statistical Office work place of the Slovak Republic in Bratislava. Her presentation was followed by papers aimed at history which were delivered by Prokop Závodský from the University of Economics, Prague (History of the Czechoslovak Statistical Society between the wars), Peter Mach (History of the Slovak Statistical and Demographic Society - 50 years since the establishment of the Society), František Bernadič, Vice President of the Statistical Office of the SR (25 years from the birth of an independent state statistics in the SR) and Branislav Bleha from Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovak demography after 1993). In the end of the introduction meritorious members of the Slovak Statistical and Demographic Society were awarded.

The programme of the second part of the first day was focused on statistics and demography education. Tomáš Želinský from the Technical University in Košice informed about the research on students' attitudes to statistics, Iveta Stankovičová from Comenius University presented her contribution on problems related the statistics teaching, needs for big data analysis and importance of data science. The following panel discussion on statistics and demography teaching in the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic was opened by Hana Řezanková and Jitka Langhamrová from the University of Economics, Prague. The programme of the next two days included the following two conferences: "PES 2018" (Views on Slovak Economy) and "FERNSTAT 2018" (Finance, Economy and Statistics).

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