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PRESS RELEASE

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HAVEL & PARTNERS reported record half-year sales

HAVEL & PARTNERS, the largest and the most successful Czech and Slovak law firm, builds on its last year's financial results when its turnover on net legal services saw a year-on-year increase of 11.5% in the first half of 2020. The high pace was achieved mainly by HAVEL & PARTNERS offices in Prague and Brno.

Last year, HAVEL & PARTNERS registered a year-on-year increase in its revenue by more than 11% and the sales generated by the entire group exceed one billion Czech crowns for the first time. In the first half of 2020, revenue for net legal services reached CZK 388 million, with the group's total sales amounting to approx. CZK 500 million. *"The firm's financial results, with a growth of more than 11% again, suggest that so far we have managed to maintain the positive trend of double-figure growth achieved last year. Nevertheless, we expect some slowdown in connection with the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic and related measures in the next months; however, even our pessimistic scenario assumes a slight growth in turnover and profits for the whole of 2020,"* says Jaroslav Havel, the firm's managing partner.

HAVEL & PARTNERS' revenues have grown continuously since the firm's establishment in 2001. This is mainly due to the provision of legal services to leading Czech, Slovak as well as international companies and Czech and Slovak entrepreneurs, including approx. one third of the richest Czechs and Slovaks. The key areas of advice are still mergers and acquisitions, legal and tax structuring of personal property and real estate projects. Also, the practice groups advising on restructuring and insolvency, and arbitration and litigation have recorded growth.

"With our many years of experience and with the knowledge of macroeconomic data, we have expected the income of a crisis, having a major impact on the economy, for a long time, and made

intense preparations for it for more than 18 months, in terms of the scope of our services, consistent financial management and digitisation. Although we were affected by the crisis in a form different from what we expected, we were able to respond immediately. Since day one, we have provided intense advice to top managers, business owners and investors, banks, and insurance companies. We support our clients' in-house lawyers in assessing emergency situations and measures in all business sectors and branches of law and taxes, including state aid. I believe that our commitment and the high level of experience of all our teams, in combination with an individual client approach and the development of strategic partnership with clients, is our main competitive advantage both in these trying times and for the next period," adds Jaroslav Havel.

The excellent financial results have also been enabled by the international renown of HAVEL & PARTNERS and related collaboration with international law firms that engage HAVEL & PARTNERS in major comprehensive international projects and cross-border transactions more and more often.

HAVEL & PARTNERS, attorneys-at-law, with offices in Prague, Brno, Bratislava, Pilsen, Olomouc, and Ostrava, has a team of 220 lawyers and tax advisors, approx. 150 associates and 500 employees in total, including employees of the affiliated debt collection agency Cash Collectors, and is the largest independent law firm in Central Europe. Our clients include large international companies, leading Czech and Slovak firms, including strategic state-owned companies and public sector authorities, as well as medium-size businesses, individual entrepreneurs, and investors. We advise approximately 100 of the Fortune 500 companies, and almost 50 of the Czech Top 100 companies. HAVEL & PARTNERS currently provides its services to a total of 2,000 clients. We have the most comprehensive international support available to both Czech and Slovak law firms. We provide legal and tax advice in 12 world languages in more than 90 countries around the globe. Up to 70 % of the transactions we deal with involve an international aspect. We closely cooperate with leading international law firms in Europe, Asia, North America, Africa, and Australia. Thus, our clients have access to international and local know-how and expertise through more than 30,000 lawyers in nearly 160 countries. HAVEL & PARTNERS is the most successful law firm, providing the most comprehensive legal services in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, based on the total number of all nominations and awards in all years of the Law Firm of the Year awards. The firm became the absolute winner of this competition three times in the last five years, receiving the main award Domestic Law Firm of the Year in the Czech Republic (2015, 2017, 2018) and ranking as one of the most recommended law firms in all categories of law. HAVEL & PARTNERS is also a three-time winner of the Law Firm of the Year award for Best Client Services (2015, 2016, 2019). HAVEL & PARTNERS was named the best law firm operating in the Czech Republic by the prestigious British rating agencies Chambers and Partners (2020) and Who's Who Legal (2018, 2019). In the field of M&A, HAVEL & PARTNERS is the best law firm in the Czech Republic based on the annual International Advisory Experts awards (2018, 2019). As part of the Law Firm of the Year competition, it won this category both in the Czech Republic (2019) and in Slovakia (2020). In Slovakia, it also won the prestigious global M&A Today Awards (2013–2018) for Mergers & Acquisitions six times in a row, and repeatedly won first place in the ranking by Lawyer International Legal 100 (2017, 2018). Prestigious international rating agencies EMIS DealWatch and Mergermarket have ranked HAVEL & PARTNERS among the leading law firms by the number of transactions completed in the entire CEE region since 2009. Based on annual awards of the Acquisition International magazine, HAVEL & PARTNERS has become the Law Firm of the Year 2019 in the M&A category in the CEE region.

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