

# The laureate of the 2017 Arnošt Lustig Prize is Paul Rausnitz

Mr. Paul Rausnitz received the 2017 Arnošt Lustig Prize in award ceremony held on 24 May 2018 from the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Andrej Babiš, and the Chairman of the Prize Board, Professor Jan Pirk, in the Residence of the Mayor of Prague.



"It is my pleasure that the laureate of the 2017 Arnošt Lustig Prize is a personality with truly strong life experiences, who was involved in liberating Czechoslovakia during World War II to defend national interests and achieved success in business as the owner of the Meopta company," the Prime Minister said.

Congratulations were offered by the Mayor of Prague, Ms. Adriana Krnáčová, under whose auspices this year's seventh edition was held, H. E. Daniel Meron, Ambassador of the State of Israel in the Czech Republic, Mr. Michal Kadera, a representative of the

general partner ŠKODA AUTO, a.s., and the president of the Czech-Israeli Mutual Chamber of Commerce Mr. Pavel Smutný.

"This year's laureate is again an outstanding and unique personality. He risked his life for the Republic when he was young. He learnt everything in the United States and achieved a great success to return into his homeland after 1989 and save a whole industry branch here. Paul Rausnitz rightly deserves the respect and gratitude of our country. He stands a great example", said Pavel Smutný about the laureate. [IB](#)

*Photos by Morris Media*



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## The seventh edition of CEMACH contest knows its winners

On 16 May 2018, the winners were announced in a ceremony completing the seventh run of the CEMACH competition that promotes the State of Israel in secondary schools in the Czech Republic and in Slovakia.



A group of eight selected winners from the literature, art and internet discipline will again fly to Israel to have a week-long exclusive excursion tour. In addition to traditional parts of the program, such as a trip to Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, they will also be up to a ride in the Negev desert.

A total of 1050 projects were signed up for this year's contest. Particularly the art discipline saw high quality works with winners Roland Johnson with painting *As up, so down*, Marie Hauerová with

the painting named *Journey to knowledge*, Nela Múčková with painting *Liberation from the sheeple* and Elina Pitra with KIPA, an installation of ceramic objects. In the literature discipline, the podium was taken by Ondřej Batůšek and his sci-fi novel about autonomous vehicles and Petra Toušková, who wrote an essay on Israeli water management. The internet discipline was won by Alexandr Pisani and Eva Ďurdová – both created a website on Israel.

The competition is newly run by the CEMACH Institute, a non-profit organisation headed by the long-time producer of the CEMACH competition, Andrej Čírtek. In addition to the contest, the institute works together with the ČISOK chamber to establish a youth section that will create the spawn for the development of relations between the Czech Republic and Israel with the young upcoming generation. [IB](#)

by the CEMACH Institute



## The Senate held a conference on Israel after 70 years and the Czech-Israeli relations

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the State of Israel, the Czech Republic Senate organised a conference on the subject of Israel after 70 years and its relations with the Czech Republic. The conference was divided into three panels: Israel and the EU, Present-day Israel and relations between the Czech Republic and Israel.

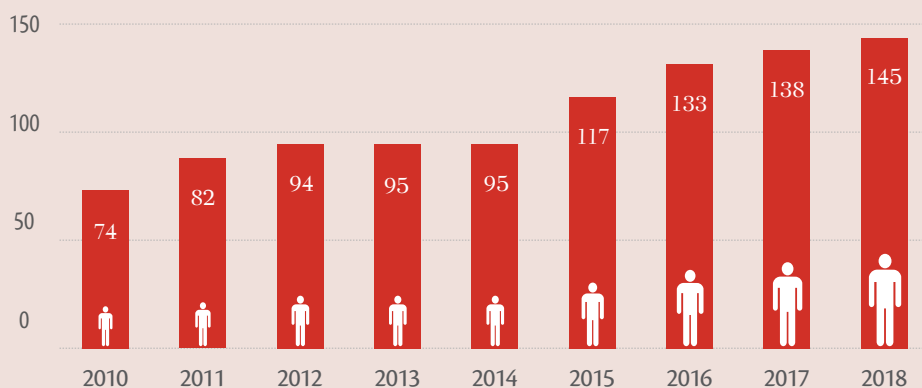


While the first two panels covered rather political subjects, the third one also focused on trade relations with Israel. The speakers invited to the third panel included the President of our chamber Mr. Pavel Smutný, who assessed mutual economic cooperation and described the key domains of trade cooperation between the Czech Republic and Israel. Those include scientific cooperation and its higher effectiveness as well as increasingly intensive contacts with experts from Israel. The shared Israeli knowledge enables us to check whether we follow the right path in science and innovation. Equally important is our general engineering and defence industry. Last but not least, there is an important cooperation in third markets where we can synergise and where we would not have a chance to strike business success just on our own. [IB](#)

by Karel Kortánek, CEO ČISOK

## Membership in 2017

The chamber welcomed thirteen new members in 2017. Twelve new members joined the chamber in the first quarter of 2018 bringing the total to 145 members. [IB](#)



## ČISOK General Meeting

The Top Hotel Prague was the venue for the ČISOK general meeting on 26 April 2018. The opening remarks were delivered by the president of the chamber Mr. Pavel Smutný, and H.E. Daniel Meron, Ambassador of the State of Israel, followed with his address. Mr. Assaf Dovrat, the new CEO of the partner chamber in Israel, used the occasion to introduce himself to the members. The third guest to shortly address the membership was Israeli Defence Attaché Colonel Gustav Turjanski. The general meeting familiarised the members with past and upcoming events, the budget and future plans. Some information is available in our infographics. [IB](#)

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DTP and production: Label Up, s. r. o. | www.labelup.cz

Published: July 2018