



*Dear readers,*

*The National Bank of Slovakia is now at the tenth anniversary of its establishment. Over these past ten years it has, through maintaining its independence, gained the necessary credibility to fulfil the objectives and tasks of a central bank, stabilising the development of our economy.*

*The central bank has played an important role in international communication and cooperation in the process of incorporating the Slovak Republic into international financial and economic structures.*

*With regard to the tenth anniversary of the National Bank of Slovakia, I would like to put forward several thoughts on another important activity of the central bank, communication with the public. Our aim is the transparent provision of professional information on the central bank, presenting the decisions of the National Bank of Slovakia in the field of monetary policy, performing banking supervision and giving information on the fulfilment of the main tasks of the central bank.*

*One of the forms of the National Bank of Slovakia's communication with the public comprises its publications. Among the various publications and press releases made by the central bank we may also include our anniversary edition of the professional banking journal BIATEC. Since its establishment in January 1993 it has provided up-to-date information on the Slovak economy's development, focusing on monetary policy and the activity of the National Bank of Slovakia, on issues concerning the banking and financial sector in regular as well as new sections, topical fields and cycles.*

*I would thus like to take this opportunity to thank you for your trust and goodwill that you have shown towards our journal over the past ten years, as well as for your many suggestions and comments. The aim of our editorial team has since its outset been to provide a place for professional information, the presentation of practical experience, analyses and evaluations in order to give productive inspiration for your work and studies.*

*I would like to state that many of you have participated actively and creatively in its content and focus through your articles and contributions.*

*A significant aim in the future publication activity of the central bank, i.e. also that of the BIATEC journal, will be to provide information on the current development of the Slovak Republic in the integration process, to present communications of the National Bank of Slovakia with the European Central Bank, issues concerning the progressive interconnection of the National Bank of Slovakia into the European System of Central Banks, the preparation of the Slovak Republic for accession into the European Union and European Monetary Union, as well as cooperation with the world's leading financial institutions.*

Marián Jusko  
Governor of the NBS