

Carmen Staicu appointed as new Spokeswoman of Erste Group

Carmen Staicu appointed as new Spokeswoman of Erste Group Carmen Staicu (32) has been appointed as new spokeswoman and head of external communications at Erste Group Bank AG as of 1 May 2015. She is succeeding Hana Cygonkova who over the last 14 years successfully built up and integrated the external communication of the group, and is now pursuing a different role within Erste Group.

Carmen Staicu joined Erste Group's external communications department in 2011. Prior to that, she had been working as senior account manager at Grayling Romania based in Bucharest. In her new function, Staicu will be responsible for corporate and financial PR, as well as looking after the Group's reputation in Austria, CEE and internationally. She is teaming up with Linda Michalech and Michael Mauritz. Carmen Staicu holds a master's degree in Geopolitics and International Relations from the Academy of Economic Sciences in Bucharest.

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Ceska sporitelna's profile

Ceska sporitelna is the largest bank in the Czech Republic • More than 5 million clients use its services: individuals, small and medium-sized enterprises, and municipalities, but we also finance large corporations and provide financial market services • Ceska sporitelna has been a member of Erste Group since 2000, and under that brand, it serves affluent and corporate clients • It boasts the most extensive branch and ATM networks in the Czech Republic • It also plays an important role as an innovator: for example, it was the first bank on the Czech market to start issuing contactless cards comprehensively, and to develop a network for their use • *For additional interesting information about Ceska sporitelna, read here.*

Ceska sporitelna – A Responsible partner of the Society

We have invested **CZK 26 000 000 000** into projects for electricity generation from renewable sources and energy-efficient projects • We endowed the Depositum Bonum Foundation with **CZK 1,450,000,000** to support education in the Czech Republic • Together with the Ceska sporitelna Foundation, we donated **CZK 76,000,000** to publicly beneficial projects in 2014 • In 2014, we divided **CZK 2,000,000** among 35 charitable projects on the basis of votes taken in our employee and client grant programmes • **10,000** seniors attended our "Seniors Communicate" educational courses in **900** Czech towns and cities • **2,092** of our employees participated in the Sporitelna Days for Charity. This means that we donated **14,440** of our employees' work hours • **359** of our branches are wheelchair-accessible and over **250** of our ATMs are adapted for use by visually impaired clients • Each employee can use **2** work days for public benefit activities thanks to Sporitelna's Days for Charity • *For additional interesting information about Ceska sporitelna's corporate social responsibility, read here.*

Erste Group's Profile

Material for the Public

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Erste Group is the leading financial services provider in the Eastern part of the EU • Approximately 46,000 employees serve 16.5 million clients in around 2,900 branches in 7 countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia) • As of YE 2013 Erste Group has reached EUR 199.9 billion in total assets, a net profit of EUR 61 million and a cost-income-ratio of 52.5%.