Appendix

**10th Edition of the Act of the Year**

**Nominees:**

**Predictable business environment: an EU circular economy package defining a long-term concept for the European economy;**

*Regulation: EU circular economy package:*

* *Directive (EU) 2018/849 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directives 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles, 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators, and 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment;*
* *Directive (EU) 2018/850 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste;*
* *Directive (EU) 2018/851 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste; and*
* *Directive (EU) 2018/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste.*

*Author: European Commission*

*Justification:* Europe has defined a binding framework for a transition to a self-sufficient and sustainable economy in terms of raw materials. The “take-produce-use-throw away” model dating back to the Industrial Revolution will be, in the broadest aspects of the economy, gradually transformed to eliminate waste and re-use valuable resources. It creates a unique space for innovating firms, gaining a competitive advantage and stimulating growth in the European industry. The concept sets up a predictable business environment making it possible for firms to adopt the right strategic decisions. However, to carry out the plan, firms now have to seek its correct transposition to the Czech regulation governing the use of resources, eco-design and waste management.

**Functional infrastructure: amendment to the act on fast-tracking the construction of transport, water and energy infrastructure;**

*Regulation: Act No. 169/2018 Coll., amending Act No. 416/2009 Sb., on fast-tracking the construction of transport, water and energy infrastructure and electronic communication infrastructure, as amended, and other relating acts (or, to be specific, the part thereof relating to the construction of transport infrastructure)*

*Author: 17 deputies - Martin Kolovratník, Dan Ťok, Patrik Nacher, Milan Feranec, Klára Dostálová, Roman Onderka, Jaroslav Foldyna, Květa Matušovská, Leo Luzar, Zdeněk Ondráček, Radim Fiala, Helena Langšádlová, Ondřej Polanský, Věra Kovářová, Lukáš Černohorský, Zbyněk Stanjura, Jiří Mihola*

*Justification:* One of the fundamental prerequisites for doing business is movement, which is dependent on functional infrastructure. The amendment seeks to reduce the process of issuing permits for the most significant transport infrastructure structures, namely motorways and railways. The amendments introduces the fiction of approval for issuing a binding opinion. Furthermore, it introduces the institutes of preliminary entry into possession, which fast-tracks the appropriation procedure in respect of major transport structures. As the fast-tracking limits the rights of participants in the procedure, the act is set to be reviewed by the Constitutional Court.

**Instrument for healthy competition: amendment to the Trademarks Act**

*Regulation: Act No. 286/2018 Coll., amending Act No. 441/2003 Coll., on trademarks and on amendments to Act No. 6/2002 Coll., on courts, judges, associate judges and the state administration of courts, and on amendments to certain other acts (the Courts and Judges Act), as amended, (the Trademarks Act), as amended, Act No. 221/2006 Coll., on enforcement of industrial property rights and on amendments to industrial property protection acts (the Enforcement of Industrial Property Rights Act), and Act No. 634/2004 Coll., on administrative fees, as amended, transposing Directive (EU) 2015/2436 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2015 to approximate the laws of the Member States relating to trade marks (revised version)*

*Author: Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Justice*

*Justification:* The trademark is a traditional instrument for healthy competition among entrepreneurs and its effective and efficient protection is a prerequisite for expansion to new markets. The amendment seeks to modernise and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the trademark system. The amendment newly makes it possible to register olfactory, gustatory, acoustic or kinetic trademarks. However, as it abolishes the review of the existing trademarks by the Industrial Property Office as part of its official duty in registering new trademarks, additional requirements are imposed on the owners of the already registered trademarks in that they must be more vigilant.

**Nomination Committee (in alphabetical order):**

Tomáš Babáček, partner at Deloitte Legal, Chairman of the Nomination Committee

Marie Brejchová, president of the Association of In-House Lawyers of the Czech Republic, an in-house lawyer at PRE, a.s.

Monika Čírtková, attorney, own practice

Václav Drchal, editor, the Euro monthly

Radek Hacaperka, managing director at APPLiA CZ – Association of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers

Filip Hanzlík, deputy managing director and chief lawyer, Czech Banking Association

Štěpán Holub, attorney, Holubová advokáti s.r.o.

Jan Januš, editor and head of the legal section at Info.cz

Veronika Ježková, director at Pro bono aliance, manager of the AdvoCats for Women team

Pavel Jiříček, attorney at Transparency International – Česká republika, o.p.s.

Soňa Jonášová, founder and director at the Circular Economy Institute

David Karabec, attorney, Association of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Crafts of the Czech Republic

Kateřina Kolářová, editor in chief of the Law and Judiciary section at Lidové noviny

František Korbel, partner at Havel & Partners, lecturer at the Faculty of Law at Charles University, member of the Legislative Council of the Czech Government

Petr Kubala, managing director at Povodí Vltavy, State Enterprise

Jan Mandík, Department of Legislation, Law and Analyses at the Czech Chamber of Commerce

Radka Mašková, tax advisor, director at the Indirect Taxes department, Deloitte Advisory s.r.o.

Lucie Mohylová, presenter of The Week in the Judiciary (Týden v justici), Czech Television

Robert Němec, partner at PRK Partners, vice-chairman of the Board of Directors of the Czech Bar Association

Jiří Nesrovnal, member of the presiding committee, Czech Chamber of Tax Advisors

Barbara Pořízková, vice-chairwoman of the Supreme Administrative Court

Tomáš Prouza, president of the Czech Confederation of Commerce and Tourism

Hana Rýdlová, editor-in-chief at Bulletin advokacie

Karel Šimka, judge, Supreme Administrative Court

Radek Špicar, vice-president of the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic

Tereza Tomanová, tax advisor, manager at the Direct Taxes department, Deloitte Advisory s.r.o.

Alžběta Vejvodová, editor-in-chief at the Právní rádce (Legal Advisor) monthly

Monika Zahálková, managing director, Czech Institute of Directors