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Preface



Dear readers, friends and colleagues,

You have just opened the 2023 Annual Report, expanded to commemorate Glopolis' 20th birthday. We prepared a mosaic of historical milestones, photographs and a collage of names of people who have been involved in the Glopolis journey at some point, and added a stock-taking interview with me.

In 2023, significant changes took place at Glopolis. The scope of our program, which seeks to improve conditions for the non-profit sector, grew. The program got a new name - ProCivic. In addition to coordinating the ever-expanding NeoN network, we started to map more systematically the state of the civic space - i.e. the environment for organised civic activities - and to coordinate CSO sector representatives in advisory bodies around EU funds.

The Stronger Roots Program became more established in the CSO sector support ecosystem thanks to the 2nd round of call for proposal, but also thanks to a new series of expert workshops for those who did not reach its grants. It continues to open up individual organizations and entire CSO networks to the sur-

rounding environment, building personal relationships and collaborative communities.

At the same time, we completed the Transforming Business project, which for two years was trying to motivate small and medium-sized companies to take the first steps to improve their environmental and social sustainability. We were able to build a network of partners, organise a series of professional events and launch the first portal with an overview of ESG services in the country. Moving a significant number of companies to more systematic changes in operations or even a different business model would, however, require resources in magnitude of a different order, the adoption of much deeper business expertise and shifting Glopolis towards a consulting firm. This would go beyond our basic setup and mission. However, this experience has moved us more into the role of consultants or trainers for the non-profit sector. And we are still looking for synergies with our partners in progressive business networks, including how to support the Czech Republic's transformation towards greater sustainability.

The themes of sustainability and democracy have been a mainstay for the past 20 years. More than 100 projects over that period have time and time again convinced us that in the long term one can hardly exist without the other. And that the key to a more considerate, responsible - today, we would add resilient - society is collaboration across different perspectives and experiences. I believe that in the next phase, Glopolis will continue to be an important node of collaboration both within civic socie-

ty and between the civil society sector, government, business and others.

In June 2024 I am ending my position as Director and handing over to my colleague Jana Miléřová. Her vision can be found at the end of this report. I have no doubt that she will continue to lead Glopolis in a good direction and on the basis of the philosophy and values that have made Glopolis a recognised player in the Czech CSO sector. Although I will continue to be in the vicinity of Glopolis, I would like to thank for amazing two decades to all the people who have ever made up the Glopolis team (almost 80 employees and countless freelancers), the 28 dedicated and patient souls who have worked for us in the statutory bodies, and the more than 35 institutional partners who have supported us financially (with cumulative revenues of CZK 156 mil., EUR 6,25 mil.), professionally and, most importantly, with their trust and collaboration.

Petr Lebeda
Founder and Director
Glopolis, o. p. s.

Who We Are



**STRENGTH IN DIVERSITY,
THE ART OF COOPERATION**

We strengthen CSO networks and collaboration within the social ecosystem.

We are a Czech civil society organization. We strive for a cohesive, collaborative society. We advocate for favorable conditions for the non-profit sector. We connect CSOs into networks. We develop their knowledge and skills for better interaction with government, business and other partners at national and European level. Since 2004, we have been providing expertise, background and resources for this purpose.

www.glopolis.org

You can also follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

Our vision

is of a collaborative society, where different people work together in the public interest and which provides an enabling environment for such collaboration.

Our mission

is to connect people and organisations to work better together for sustainable democracy. We seek out and expand the field of shared aspirations of non-profit organizations, government officials, politicians and businesses and engage them in solving societal challenges.

We are part of:

- NeoN – Network of Networks
- Network to Protect Democracy
- Reconstructing the State
- Eurodad – European Network for Debt Relief and Development
- FoRS – Czech Forum for Development Cooperation
- Climate Coalition
- Green Circle

We are committed to the [Policy for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Groups](#).



Glopolis in Time

We coordinate the **Czechia Against Poverty** campaign (and the first network) in support of the MDGs.

We establish an CSO platform for the **Czech EU Presidency**.

We promote policy **coherence for development** into the Czech Strategy of Development Cooperation.

We successfully advocate for **financing development projects** from the proceeds of emission permits, we are featured with global development topics in the (traditional) media every other day (166 posts).

We establish a network around the SDGs (6 platforms, 200 organisations), which contributes significantly to the national **Sustainable Development Strategy**.

Menu for Change project's **learning modules** are used by 51.000 schools in 67 countries, our 4 websites receive over 100.000 visitors.

76 platforms applied for the new **Stronger Roots regional call for proposals to support CSO networks**, 9 winners received €150.000 in support.

NeoN goes beyond **22 platforms, 600 organizations**. We conclude the Transforming Business project and its portal with an overview of more than 70 companies in 35 different ESG themes.

Petr Lebeda establishes the **Prague Institute for Global Policy – Glopolis**, a think-tank on trade, development and globalisation.

Programs on food security, climate change, economic and financial policies and migration are gradually established.

Partnership with RSJ Group begins: from financial awareness, to cooperation with organic farmers and supporting ESG in companies.

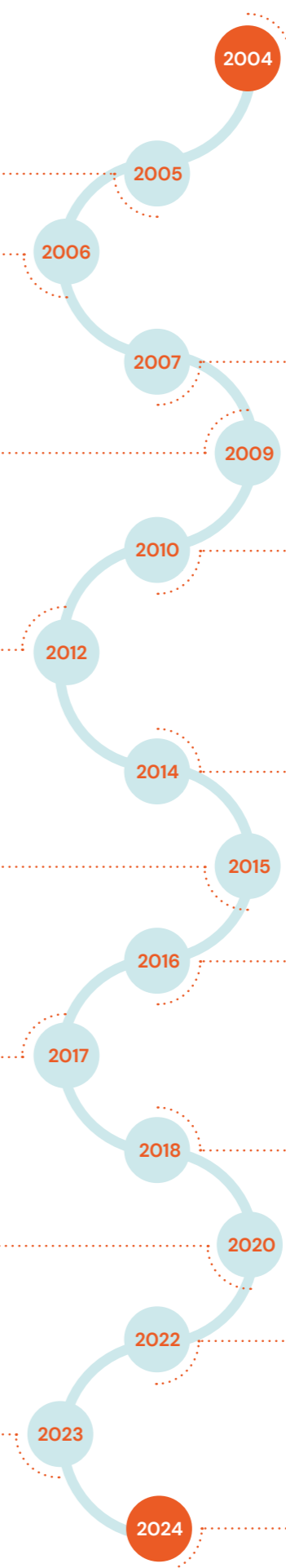
In a European coalition, we succeed in establishing an EU **Registry of Beneficial Owners**.

Glopolis is at its largest: we have a turnover of 17.8 million CZK, 25 employees, 19 TV and 27 radio appearances.

We turn the national SDGs network into the **civic space protection network NeoN** (9 platforms, 250 organisations).

We successfully collaborate on the **amendment of the Public Procurement Act**.

Jana Miléřová takes over the director's chair from Petr Lebeda.





Opening party for the foundation of Glopolis at Hradčany Beams

2004



Jana Miléřová and Tamara Kafková at a regional seminar in Prague

2005



First visit of Czech CSOs working in development cooperation to the European Parliament

2008



Launch of the Czechia Seeks the Future project

2011



Glopolis team waiting for the sunrise at the retreat near Aš

2012



Glopolis 10th anniversary celebration

2014



Glopolis 10th anniversary celebration

2014

20 years



Aurèle Destrée consults with director and documentary filmmaker Ivo Bystřičan

2015



Petr Lebeda with participants of the Football for Development project in Nairobi

2016



Glopolis team at retreat in Horní Maršov

2017



Menu for Change project team with economist Jeffrey Sachs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

2017



NeoN backbone group meeting near Český Krumlov

2020



First in-person meeting of Stronger Roots grantees in Brno

2021



Jana Miléřová and Petr Lebeda alongside Klára Šimáčková Laurenčíková at the conference „Strategic Partnerships for Building Democratic Society in Europe“

2022

Interview with the Founder



PETR LEBEDA

Manager, political and social analyst, consultant, lecturer and facilitator. He studied international business and politics in Prague and development cooperation in Monterey, California. He worked as a researcher at the Institute of International Relations, as a journalist, and as lecturer at universities. Petr also worked with Vaclav Havel's Forum 2000 Foundation. After returning from the USA, he founded the Prague Institute for Global Policy – Glopolis. He has three sons. He lives with his wife and the youngest son in Dobřichovice.



The most important shifts we want to achieve are on the level of thinking.

What was your driving force to founding Glopolis in 2004? What was the main idea behind it?

Glopolis was created as the intersection of several needs. The main need as well as aspiration was to work in the Czech Republic on global issues – to bring into the public and political debate new topics such as climate change, food security or international trade and to take into account the challenges of developing countries. I wanted to seek constructive solutions to them, in a slightly more long-term, systematic and practical way than was offered by

research, academic or journalistic work. This was something I missed at home after returning from the US and after the Forum 2000 Foundation shifted away from debates on globalisation more towards the security agenda. Setting up a think tank to combine analytical, educational and then advocacy work around global sustainable development seemed like a good idea.

What developments has Glopolis undergone over its twenty years of existence? Which topics has it addressed and has its mission evolved as a result? And what has remained constant?

Of course, a lot has changed in the Czech Republic and in the world in these 20 years. The above mentioned topics, pioneering at the time, are now a common political agenda. Some of them only at the level of the EU or international institutions (such as tax havens). Yet, they are all generally

recognised as a public issue, not as the agenda of a few activists. There is no longer a serious political debate about whether climate change is real and to what extent it is man-made. The issue is how quickly and at what cost we can transform our economies. Not only in environmental terms, but also in social terms (see ESG). There are a number of organisations and projects in the Czech Republic now that are focusing on these issues and doing it better than Glopolis did.

For Glopolis, on the other hand, around 2017/18 it was no longer sustainable to address so many complex topics at once. Moreover, populism and polarisation set in. It increasingly seemed to us that the next key (and de facto global) challenge was becoming how to maintain a level playing field for the non-profit sector, especially the advocacy sector, to operate, whatever issues it advocated for. And generally

maintaining basic cohesion in divided societies. At the same time, we saw in our own work with various networks that the solution to societal problems no longer lies in a well-organized campaign or successful lobbying meetings. Complicated, complex or chaotic problems require long-term collaborative processes. And not only within the civil society sector, but between CSOs, business and the state, or even other stakeholders. That's why we have transformed and started to focus on developing relationships and social capital across different bubbles, supporting networks of CSOs, and a methodology for what we call Transversal Collaboration.

When you look back over the last two decades, what do you consider your greatest achievement?

I don't know if I'm able to highlight one single achievement. Our work has always been and still is a long haul, made up of many small steps and shifts over time. We have published over 130 publications, hundreds of classic media outlets (even before social media :-)), organized thousands of meetings, seminars, and many large conferences. We have negotiated with dozens of MPs, ministers and prime ministers. And we managed to move a lot of things forward – the Czech Republic's position on the EU proposal for the Public Register of Beneficial Owners, the Climate Protection Policy or the Sustainable Development Strategy – Czech Republic 2030. After 2018, we managed to transform the coalition of 8 platforms (125 CSOs) working on the Sustainable Development Strategy, into NeoN, which today with 22 sectoral platforms (more than 600 CSOs) is one of the largest networks for coordination of the non-profit sector and defends reasonable conditions for tens of thousands of Czech CSOs. As part of the Stronger Roots Program, we have devised an innovative methodology to strengthen CSO networks and support their cooperation with public or other institutions in

Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary and, hopefully from 2025, Poland.

But the most important shifts we want to achieve are deeper, on the level of thinking – mentality or mindset, if you like. Only then can the shifts manifest themselves in long-term changed behaviour. The ability to respond constructively to global or complex problems depends on how much of the diverse and interconnected contexts of our world people are able to absorb and respond to in some meaningful way in their personal, professional, civic lives. I definitely see a shift here over the past two decades: from simple recycling, to shopping behavior, to thinking through more complex energy solutions. From managing tens of news daily from a few media outlets towards a more complex, critical navigation through a landscape of thousands of different, often conflicting information, opinions and debates of very different quality and relevance. A stronger drive to find an underlying common denominator is certainly not to be found with everyone. Many groups tend to rather encapsulate themselves in their bubbles, silos or echo chambers, but I certainly see it more in the younger generation. Of course we can't declare all this as our success. At the most, we have contributed a little bit. Plus, a lot of steps in the right direction are offset by complications such as missteps, side effects or delays.

But I will offer one particular personal joy. And that is the growing number of people who consider the practice of mindfulness or meditation as an important tool for personal and professional development. A growing awareness that solutions begin within each of us.

Leading an organization for higher societal goals is always a bit more of a heart issue than being primarily motivated by the goal of generating profit. What do you personally enjoy about the journey behind Glopolis?



For us, basic human reciprocity has always been not only a key principle of (co-)work, but also an end in itself.

It's the relationships with hundreds of amazing people. People who are not single-mindedly focused on just one topic or one sector, but try to understand and be useful in different contexts. People I've been able to meet, learn from, or even work with. From the more than 80 enthusiastic, skilled and creative people who have worked directly for Glopolis, to the 3 dozen wise and dedicated individuals who have overseen our work from the statutory bodies with nothing more than a good feeling or the 35 strategic partners who have supported us not only financially, but above all with their trust, flexibility and straightforward feedback.

For us, basic human reciprocity has always been not only a key principle of our work, but in fact the ultimate goal in itself. It may sound trite, but in the ever faster pace of civilization, in the plethora of communication, challenges and opportunities, activities, processes, etc., those basic values of humanity can get lost. Seeing the other as a unique human being who always has something to offer me. To develop mutual understanding and respect the limits each of us has. To help each other where we can. To keep my word and communicate openly about what is going well and what is not going well. To be able to offer and accept authenticity and vulnerability... I've learned a lot about the world, about people and about myself. And I'm grateful to all of them for that.

What We Do

IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CIVIL SOCIETY SECTOR

ProCivic

Within the ProCivic program, we support CSO network partnerships, advocate for an enabling environment for the civil society sector and strengthen democratic principles through:

- Supporting CSO cooperation within the NeoN network
- Supporting participation and financing of the civil society sector
- Watchdogging the civic space and the rule of law

We established the program in 2023 to provide an umbrella for our coordination support for the collective efforts of the member networks in NeoN, while also giving space for activities that Glropolis has begun to develop or deepen beyond the functioning of NeoN. In doing so, NeoN is becoming a stronger and more autonomous entity to which more and more organisations and government partners are relating.



From the founding 9 member networks in 2018, NeoN (Network of Networks) has grown to a group of 22 networks and umbrella organisations representing over 600 CSOs. Together they develop collaboration between CSOs and with the state and other partners. NeoN advocates for a responsible state that respects democratic principles, facilitates good conditions for the civil society sector and cooperates with it. It also strives for a civil society sector that can work together to solve societal problems across thematic focus. It develops a shared understanding of societal problems, assesses threats and opportunities, shares knowledge and resources, and builds trust, relationships and capacity to collaborate within the sector and with other partners.

Follow NeoN on [LinkedIn](#) and visit the website www.neon-cooperation.org.



Cooperation of the civil society sector within the NeoN network

For NeoN, we provide regular coordination meetings and process management, strategic planning and evaluation of results, capacity building, including funding and human resources. We coordinate joint action and negotiations at government level on selected priorities. Together with NeoN members, we support specific proposals and agendas that emerge from NeoN discussions, and in turn bring topics back to NeoN from government meetings for discussion and clarification of joint action.

What was achieved in 2023 together with NeoN:



More informed and effective networks: ongoing sharing of information on each other's work and on developments in the sector helped to better orient platforms in their own work and to support each other more (e.g. joint proposals to the Prime Minister on the use of carbon allowance revenues submitted by environmental organisations and supported across the sector).



A stronger, more collaborative sector: capacity development of the platforms (e.g. workshops) helped to improve their work both internally (better collaboration with their member organisations) and externally (more effective negotiations with public administrations).



Better decision-making of the public administration: coordinated, expert input from dozens of representatives from NeoN members provided data, experience and constructive suggestions to more than a dozen government advisory bodies, 7 ministries and the whole government (e.g. to address the impact of the war in Ukraine or to update the National Recovery Plan).



Respect, shared values, different strategies, a variety of topics – that's NeoN for me. The platform for stimulating discussions and joint actions works mainly thanks to the care and effort that Glropolis devotes to it. And for that I am thankful.

Petra Kolínská, Director of the Association of Environmental Organizations Green Circle



Thanks to NeoN, I was able to combine my work on the National Recovery Plan with the efforts of many other organizations, to quickly and clearly share information and to take advantage of their contacts and knowledge, which is a real gift in these overcrowded times.

Tereza Vohryzková, member of the National Recovery Plan Committee, Beleco



Participation and financing of the non-profit sector

We advocate for greater and more effective involvement of the civil society sector in public decision-making and for the strengthening of the role of CSOs and networks – particularly through our involvement in the Government Council for NGOs, its Committee on the EU, the National Recovery Plan Committee and its Sub-Committee on Transparency and Civil Society Engagement. We are developing cooperation with the Government's Human Rights Commissioner and the Office of the Government.

What we managed in 2023:



PARTICIPATION

- The number of CSO representatives on government advisory bodies is gradually increasing.
- With Transparency International, we negotiated to **increase the number of seats for CSO representatives** in the advisory body overseeing the National Recovery Plan, and to establish a new subcommittee specifically focused on transparency and civil society engagement.
- We produced **an assessment of the Czech EU Presidency 2022** from the perspective of CSOs, which was an important step in our efforts to make the preparation of EU agendas for the coming years more accessible to them.
- With the Secretariat of the **Government Council for NGOs**, we prepared a 2-year pilot of a new system to better represent CSOs in the implementation of EU funds.



FUNDING

- We have been involved in negotiations on systemic **enabling of multi-year funding**, CSO partnerships in grant projects and acceleration of grants in times of crisis.
- In the Expert Group on Systemic Change in Funding, we became a guarantor for improving participation and sustainability of CSO networks.



Glopolis, through NeoN, has successfully sought to promote both participation and transparency internally, towards NeoN member organisations, and to defend the interests of a significant part of the CSO sector in cooperation with the public administration. Both are needed, and Glopolis handles this professionally.

Pavel Mička, Head of Department at the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic



Monitoring civic space and the rule of law

We monitor the conditions for the civil society sector, participate in the processes of evaluating civic space and the rule of law at the Czech and European level, negotiate with the European Commission to support national dialogue on the rule of law, and support joint activities with European CSO networks.



Thanks to Glopolis and the NeoN network coordinated by Glopolis, we are able to effectively consult Czech civil society on EU issues in the EU Committee of the Government Council for CSOs. With their great input, we have evaluated the Czech EU Presidency and the involvement of CSOs in cooperation with ministries on EU policy issues.

Pavel Trantina, Vice-President of the European Movement in the Czech Republic



What we managed in 2023:

- For the third time, we participated in the preparation of the **European Commission’s Rule of Law Report** – we provided extensive aggregated input from various organisations to the public consultation, ensured the participation of Czech organisations in meetings with the European Commission and supported the launch of the report in the Czech Republic, including participation in an event prepared by the Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic.
- For the European Civic Forum and Civicus, we prepared a chapter on the Czech Republic for the **Civic Space Watch** report, which was launched in Brussels and EU Member States.
- Together with the Network for the Protection of Democracy, we organised an expert meeting of different thematic networks to **assess the state of democracy in the Czech Republic** and policy priorities for Czech democracy. As a result, we issued the Report on the State of Czech Democracy 2023 and defined priorities for 2024.



Glopolis and NeoN are important partners of the European Civic Forum (ECF). Each year they coordinate the Czech Republic’s expert contribution to the ECF’s annual report on civic space, helping to improve EU policies in support of civil society.

Giada Negri – European Civic Forum (EU and the Rule of Law)



STRATEGICALLY DEVELOPING NETWORKS OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS



In the Stronger Roots Program, we provide small grants, professional consultations, expert training and sharing space to platforms, coalitions and other CSO networks in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia. This allows them to establish contacts or deepen collaboration with public institutions and other actors relevant to their work. Together, they can better address the complex challenges facing societies in these countries.

In 2023, we shaped the second cycle of Stronger Roots, selected 16 grantees and launched a support Program for them. In 2023–2025, in consortium with 3 partner foundations, we will again support CSO networks – specifically in building collaborations with public institutions such as state authorities, national parliaments or regional and local governments, and in the internal development of networks and the engagement with existing or new member organisations, especially organisations that are small and work outside the capital cities.



Kick-off meeting with new Slovak grantees in Bratislava | Photo Glopolis

What we managed in 2023:



59 CSO networks applied for the second cycle of the Program



16 networks and their projects were selected and supported



We organized **6 training** and networking sessions for 115 participants so far



In case of **3 networks** from the first cycle of the Program, we are monitoring the impact of the collaboration with divergent stakeholders in the long term

Grantees of the second cycle of Stronger Roots

What are the projects of newly supported Czech, Slovak and Hungarian networks within the Stronger Roots Program focused on and what do they want to achieve?

Czech Republic



The **Czech Association of Helplines** is working to improve the availability of crisis assistance, primarily in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.



The Association of Czech Environmental CSOs, **Green Circle** is establishing a dialogue with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Regional Development to make environmental protection a stronger issue in these ministries.



The **Platform for Training Employment** is working with labour offices, municipalities, cities and regions to anchor the training employment of people with social disadvantages in the Czech Republic.



The **Platform for Social Housing** works with the Czech government and MPs on the development and enforcement of the Housing Support Act, as well as within the cross-sectoral initiative For Housing.



The **Network for Families** is partnering with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, regional authorities and local governments to ensure that maternity, family and community centres play a greater role in preventing adverse family situations.



The **Standing Conference of Associations in Education** works to ensure that children in Czech schools acquire the competences they really need for an active civic, professional and personal life. The Ministry of Education and Youth and the National Institute of Education are the main partners of the Association.

Slovakia



The Platform of Development Organisations, **Ambrela**, seeks to involve Slovak CSOs more in the reconstruction of the contested Ukraine. Therefore, it seeks the support of the public sector, especially the Slovak government.



Antena – Network for Independent Culture works to ensure that independent cultural centres in Slovakia have better conditions for their functioning. It cooperates with the state Fund for the Support of Arts and the Ministry of Culture, which set support for independent culture.



The **Association of Children's Forest Clubs** in Slovakia is working with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education to develop legislation and quality standards that will enable forest nurseries to become a full part of the education system.



The **Climate Coalition** builds partnerships across sectors (public administration, business, non-profit sector) to contribute to the development of effective climate policies. From the public administration, the Ministry of Environment is a natural partner.



The **Platform for Ending Homelessness** is working intensively with the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family on the development of the Action Plan for Ending Homelessness in Slovakia, as well as on preventive measures to avoid losing one's home or falling into homelessness.



Spiral, a network of environmental education organisations, is working with the National Institute of Education and Youth on the introduction of a modern curriculum and the preparation of a new national strategy for environmental education and training.

Hungary



Citizen Correspondents Network is a network of citizen reporters who work for CSOs or are individually involved in local communities in Hungary. Through its members, the network mobilises the public and mediates their participation in public decision-making in municipalities, together with the municipal leadership.



Local Developers' Network is a network of non-profit organisations dedicated to the development of small towns and settlements. The network works with local authorities to improve living conditions in a few selected small communities and in one micro-region.



EGALÍPE – The Network for Roma Equality seeks to establish deeper collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior in order to address segregation, discrimination and racism against Roma in Hungary in a more systematic way.



Free Venues is a network connecting independent cultural centres across Hungary. The network initiates dialogue between its members and municipal and city leaders so that these places can continue to function as inclusive cultural spaces that strengthen the local community.

How do we apply and transfer our know-how?

Compared to the first cycle of the Program, we now provide comprehensive and tailored training and consulting support. We use and further develop the Transversal Collaboration methodology.

TRANSVERSAL COLLABORATION

is our own, original concept of collaboration across different interests, approaches or (world)views. It describes and transmits through consultations, training and materials the principles of how CSOs and especially their networks can effectively engage different groups or actors in solving societal problems. It is based on understanding others and their needs, building relationships, finding common interests and pursuing them, from better communication, closer coordination, to partial practical cooperation and forming strategic partnerships.

(See our publication “[CSO Networks Engaging, Divergent Stakeholders and Interconnecting Fragmented Societies](#)”).

Training and experience sharing

In **training**, we combine training sessions led by external experts with presentations of our own theoretical frameworks and sharing sessions that we facilitate.



In our experience, Stronger Roots is a unique grant program which does not only provide funding, but thoughtfully and purposefully supports the development of all grantees with education, consultation, and other tools. We consider Glopolis’ expertise in networking and collaboration with the state – and how they are able to transfer it – to be unique.

Petra Keprtová, Director Standing Conference of Associations in Education



Tailor-made consultation

The consultants available to our grantees include a wide range of experts – people with experience in advocacy work, coordination, public administration or coaching. **From experienced network coordinators to advocacy consultants and public administration officials to leadership coaches.**



To meet the challenges of a complex world, we need broad collaboration between all actors – whether from the public, non-profit or private sector. The Stronger Roots Program is for me personally a really shining example of how to do this practically.

Eva Pavlíková, consultant, co-founder of Česko.Digital and Byro



Linking the non-profit and public sectors

In Stronger Roots we demonstrate and fulfill the core of our work and the overall mission of Glopolis – **connecting the non-profit sector with different or even divergent actors, in the second cycle of the Program, namely with public institutions.** Specifically, for example, by involving representatives of the state, regions or local governments in discussions at sharing sessions with grantees.



The Stronger Roots Program is great in how it brings the world of civil society organizations and the world of public service together and how it shows in a natural and human way the space for mutual need and usefulness. And here, too, it confirms that communication – open and welcoming – is simply essential for meaningful change.

Pavla Katzová, Deputy Director of the Regional Office of the Central Bohemian Region



Visit to Hungarian grantees from the Local Developers’ Network in Budapest | Photo Glopolis

With whom we implement the Stronger Roots Program

Partners



Donors



Financováno Evropskou Unií



SUPPORTING A MORE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY



We supported the transformation of Czech companies towards sustainable business based on the ESG principles, i.e. greater responsibility for the non-financial impacts of business in terms of the environment, social values and responsible management. We raised awareness directly among SMEs and in the media space. In addition, we targeted professional associations, innovation centres, government and civil society organisations that have an impact on the ecosystem needed for this transformation.

We closed the Transforming Business Program in 2023 after two years.

What we managed in 2023?



We launched a **portal** for smaller and medium-sized companies www.promenapodnikani.cz containing:

- a basic guide to sustainable business
- an ESG services signpost, which provides a unique overview of more than 70 companies and other organisations in the country offering services in 35 different ESG (sub)themes
- case studies on ESG pioneers



We organized **3 events**:

- a public debate on the role of banks in the transformation of Czech companies to a sustainable business model (following an analysis of their ESG service offerings)
- a working meeting on the reform of migration policy and employment of foreigners in the Czech Republic
- a workshop on the possibilities of providing ESG services by CSOs and their cooperation with companies on sustainability (following a survey among CSOs)



We were actively **involved in major conferences** on ESG issues, e.g.:

- We moderated a debate on non-growth at the Green Deal Summit organized by the Economic Newspaper.
- We spoke on a panel at the conference of the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises and Tradesmen of the Czech Republic.



We were involved in **media outreach** – in addition to regular posts on our LinkedIn profile, we were interviewed on ESG for FUTU Magazine and Ekonews.

Where Are We Headed



JANA MILÉŘOVÁ

coordinates NeoN and leads Glopolis as Director from July 2024. She has worked in the civil society sector with dedication for over 20 years. She has developed and led or co-led networks and organisations such as FoRS (Czech network for development cooperation), Eurodad (European network for debt and development) and CARE (international humanitarian aid organisation).



Glopolis creates spaces where highly competent and capable professionals come together to move things forward and build a valuable pipeline of relationships and connections for the next challenges.

Petr Lebeda, together with a number of colleagues, has built Glopolis over two decades as an organisation with a rightly respected position. I perceive that this was due to incredible perseverance and courage to maintain an independent and innovative approach, a focus on new and overlapping topics that concern everyone but no one can grasp, a high bar of expertise and analysis in a complex and global context. At the same time, the organisation has developed a high standard for building collaboration, partnership, mutual empathy and trust between individuals and between groups and organisations. Glopolis creates spaces that bring together highly competent and capable

professionals who can move things forward to solutions and build a valuable seedbed of relationships and connections for the next challenges. At the same time, it's a humanly welcoming and enriching environment where there is always something to learn. Therefore, I am thankful for the trust and for the opportunity to build on that.

Glopolis stands in 2024 on a strong vision, which we are fulfilling through two pillars – ProCivic and Stronger Roots. We are developing their scope, embracing new themes, organisations and strengthening our collective impact. We want to attract new and retain existing partners who share our vision of a collaborative society.

In 2024, Glopolis is launching two new projects to consolidate the ProCivic program: with the support of the European Commission and partners in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Croatia and Slovenia, we are improving monitoring of the state of civic space, strengthening CSO networks in this region and policy dialogue. In partnership with the Government Office, we are improving the involvement of CSOs in the implementation of EU funds. In this way, we

will strengthen participatory and democratic governance. NeoN is at the heart of this effort as a key partner for networks to work with each other, with the government and increasingly with the business community.

In the Stronger Roots Program, selected CSO networks will have the chance to improve their ability to work together. This will be done, among other things, through tailor-made training and expert consultations, as well as by sharing experiences with each other. In addition, the capacity building program for networks will be extended beyond the grantees to give other networks and platforms the opportunity to share their experiences and gain new know-how in Transversal Collaboration.

Together with the expanded team, we will develop Glopolis with both courage and readiness for change and build valuable partnerships between people and across sectors and organisations. We look forward to new and exciting opportunities also in collaboration with Peter Lebeda, as his skills and experience are unique. Many thanks for the incredibly inspiring 20 years at Glopolis and good luck in new adventures!

Acknowledgements

FOR THOSE WHO REPRESENTED GLOPOLIS IN 2023

Board of Directors

Ladislav Červenka (Chairman),
Martin Ehl, Martin Hudeček,
Lukáš Pokorný, Kateřina
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Glopolis team at the retreat in Podhradí u Aše | Photo Glopolis

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FOR EXTRA HELP

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Transforming Business

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Financial Overview

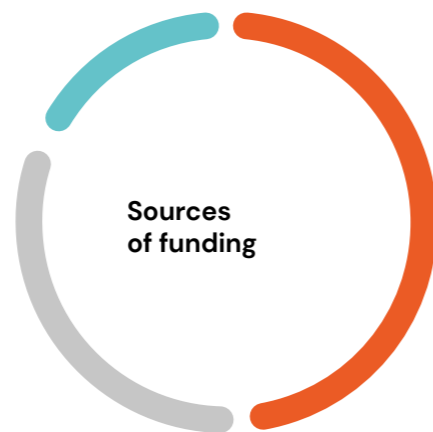
RESULT (in CZK)

Costs	CZK 7 028 430
Purchases and services consumed	CZK 3 790 350
Personnel costs	CZK 3 171 910
Other costs	CZK 66 170
Revenues	CZK 7 039 310
Operating subsidies	CZK 5 793 580
Revenue from own performance and goods	CZK 1 225 700
Other income	CZK 20 030
Economic result	CZK 10 880

▶ 13 employees worked on 3 programs and 8 projects.



- 57 % Better conditions for the non-profit sector
- 28 % Strategic development of CSO networks
- 15 % Supporting a More Sustainable Economy



- 49 % Private foundations
- 33 % Public sources
- 18 % Contracts
- 2 % Other

Contact

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