**What was the 120th ordinary assembly of the IEF Economic Club Association about?**

The closed 120th ordinary assembly and the 270th event of the Informal Economic Forum Association, the Economic Club, was held at the Liviano Restaurant in Bratislava on 11 December 2018. Ninety-one members and guests from Belarus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Germany and the Russian Federation attended. Some members living outside Bratislava were unable to come to the assembly on time because of major traffic disturbances on the road. Chinese ambassador Lin Lin and Russian ambassador A. Fedotov, as well as diplomats of several countries, also attended the event. Scientist Anatoliy Eduardovich Junitskiy and his colleagues from the SKY WAY team were event’s special guests.

In the introduction, the representative of the Association and its International Peace Committee P. Kasalovský said: “Today, I really cannot do without recalling what I was told by our member **Cardinal Korec** in a discussion 17 years /!/ ago. He passed away in October 2015 and since then, as if his message sounded quieter. At the end of March 2001, I visited him, and we talked for several hours, and then on 6 April 2001, I published some of his ideas.” He mentioned, *inter alia*, this his idea: *“Causes of failure?* *In addition to the failure of people, in addition to greed which got hold of many of us, there are things we have, nevertheless, inherited. Corroded characters as well as devastated morals. Indeed, I, like you, also believe that no nation's life, no economy can make it without human spiritual progress, without the advancement of respect for human beings, the family, the nation and the state, without respect for conscience and morals, without solid education to true values. Perhaps, we have also forgotten about this, and we should work on it*“*...* Furthermore, Mr Kasalovský stressed that there are many issues to think about, however, first of all, to contemplate what are we like. What patriots we are, what citizens – patriots we are and whether we are able to stand up for the defence of our Republic, if the twists of history such as the international destruction of the former Czechoslovak Republic with a gradually increasing degree of open and “hidden” spread of fascism in both its parts, were to be repeated.

**Minister of Defence of the Slovak Republic, Peter Gajdoš**, was expected to elaborate on this issue. However, he like other members of the current government was busy with preparing materials for the sessions of the government. He has to do everything himself, and so I am – we are concerned about the development of our health care system, foreign affairs, and now also defence, not to mention the whole government and its prime ministers. The absence of prime ministers and individual ministries in our meetings compared to the past is a poor advert and so to say a message of our political culture and accountability to the public. “Allegedly, we have an increasingly better life, and therefore, the government is in position to address social issues, however, without realising that such solutions, even if taken with the best intentions, may not harm other groups of population,” the representative of the Association said.

In our Association, we discussed **civil society and civil self-government** at the November meeting as well as in the past two or three years. We propose consideration of this topic as a possible issue for discussion next year.

Mr Kasalovský referred to the demands of the “yellow vests” from the promised land of France as well as from other European cities as inspiration to all politicians and quasi-politicians.

**Scientist Anatoliy Eduardovich Junitskiy** elaborated on the issue of “The revolutionary transport solution and the contribution of SKY WAY to creating conditions for a new quality of life on Earth.” After the festive Devin fanfare, the twelfth laureate of the “2015 Peace Prize from Slovakia” was announced.On the eve of the assembly, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic, A. Danko, who also sent a personal gift, and the President of the World Chambers Federation and Chairman of the Slovak Chamber of Commerce, P. Mihók, congratulated on him.

The main speaker in the first continuation of the all-club discussion on “The main challenges of European integration, on the creation of living and, in general, peace conditions, in particular on African and Asian immigration into the EU” was Russian Ambassador Aleksey Fedotov. The topic was “Security and cooperation between world powers and in the world and the creation of peaceful conditions for life of contemporaries”. Until today, the Russian and Chinese ambassadors accepted our invitations, and the US ambassador has not responded.

At the end of the assembly – on the eve of 2019, there was room for amicable and unofficial discussions.

*More details will be published step by step on* [*www.hospodarskyklub.sk*](http://www.hospodarskyklub.sk) *under the title banner of the 11th December...*