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## NEWS RELEASE

### TOMAS FIALA WAS ELECTED AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

On November 28 the EBA held the first meeting of its newly elected supervisory body – EBA Board. EBA Board members traditionally voted for the EBA President as well as for two Vice Presidents for 2017. And we are very pleased to announce that Tomas Fiala, CEO of Dragon Capital, will chair the EBA Board for the third time.

In their turn, Volodymyr Lavrenchuk, the Chairman of the Board at Raiffeisen Bank Aval, and Taras Lukachuk, Regional President of Jacobs Douwe Egberts, will serve in the capacity of the Vice Presidents of the Association.

The President and two Vice Presidents compose the Presidium responsible for strategic coordination of the EBA's work and the approval of its decisions. The Presidium is elected in accordance with the EBA Statute and Internal Rules and Procedures. The newly appointed Presidium will continue presenting activity and goals of Association at the highest state and business levels and making Ukraine a better place for doing business.

The new President has a significant experience in managing the Association as Mr Fiala successfully chaired the EBA Board during the hardest times for Ukraine's economy. That is why his candidacy as bright and sophisticated leader was quiet natural and this decision came easy.

#### **Tomas Fiala, the EBA President, CEO at Dragon Capital:**

*"Gaining the trust of the EBA Board is for me both a great honor and tremendous responsibility to the Association's more than 900 member companies. I shall use to the full extent my resources and experience as well as the resources of our Association to improve the conditions in which the businesses of our member companies operate."*

It is interesting to note that two Vice Presidents were both members of the EBA Board for the last several years and truly know, how to manage the work of the EBA.

#### **Volodymyr Lavrenchuk, the EBA Vice President, the Chairman of the Board at Raiffeisen Bank Aval:**

*«The European Business Association has a status of a powerful structure, that is why I consider my appointment as an opportunity to become a part of something really great. I had an experience of being EBA Vice President earlier, however, at that time the Association just gathered the stream. And now, I'm very pleased to become the Vice President again to do my best and increase our common success!"*

#### **Taras Lukachuk, the EBA Vice President, Regional President at Jacobs Douwe Egberts:**

*«Ukraine is currently in need of radical reforms, but it's hard enough to change everything at once. I think that we'd better concentrate on something concrete, because it's more effective to move taking small but steady steps. In my view, the Association works very efficiently in this direction in accordance with the best EU ideas and values. And I will be absolutely happy to make my effort to help transparent business maximize its status in Ukraine."*

#### **Dmytro Krepak, EBA Board member, CEO of Visa:**

*"Tomas, Volodymyr and Taras have strong business experience in Ukraine and a clear vision of what European investors expect from the country to maintain and grow their presence here. They have been vocal about the problems in Ukrainian business climate and ways to resolve them. I am sure EBA's Board will continue its strong advocacy of positive changes in Ukraine under their leadership."*

Taking this opportunity, we would like to wish our new Presidium inspiration and success! We do believe that together we are able to create better condition for doing business in Ukraine.

Moreover, we are grateful to our former President Krzysztof Siedlecki, Regional Manager of Astellas Pharma Europe BV, as well as two former Vice Presidents – Oleksii Kredisov, Managing Partner of EY and Ansgar Bornemann, CEO of Nestle, who did their best in 2016.