



# Prague College

## PRESS RELEASE

### PRAGUE COLLEGE FIRST INDEPENDENT FOREIGN UNIVERSITY REGISTERED WITH MSMT

30<sup>th</sup> June, 2017: Prague College is delighted to announce that it has become the first independent university with foreign accreditation to have all its Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes officially registered by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MSMT).

Under recent revisions to the Higher Education law, MSMT now has a certain level of regulatory oversight for foreign-accredited programmes, as well as Czech-accredited public, state and private universities. Foreign universities must satisfy a number of conditions regarding assurances of their right to operate and deliver foreign degrees, and follow-up responsibilities will bring reporting requirements for key student data into force.

*"I have been a strong supporter of MSMT taking on responsibilities to ensure a level of oversight of the foreign university sector,"* says Douglas Hajek, Director of Prague College. *"I believe the public greatly benefits from knowing which universities are operating under the proper regulation of their home country's laws and institutions, and the new register of foreign universities and programmes accomplishes this."*

In addition to the foreign university register, which is part of the comprehensive MSMT register of public, state, private and foreign universities, the new law also ensures that students of properly registered foreign universities will have access to social and health benefits, or so-called student status. The law also clarifies the process of recognition of all foreign degrees held by Czech citizens who may need this recognition to work in the public sector or for other purposes.

Prague College was founded in 2004 and offers a wide variety of programmes in the subject areas of business, management, finance, art, design, computing and media to over 500 students annually. The university is extremely international, with students coming from over 70 countries at any given time, and with Czechs making up about 40% of the total. About half the international students are already resident in the Czech Republic before starting their studies, while the other half come to the Czech Republic with Prague College as their university destination.

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**Notes for Editors:**

Prague College was founded in 2004 and offers programmes in Business, International Management, Accounting, Finance, Graphic Design, Fine Art (Experimental Media), Computing, and Communications. It is accredited by the UK's Teesside University, which was named "UK University of the Year" by the Times Higher Education magazine in 2009-10. Prague College was identified by Cambridge University Students Union in 2012/13, and again for 2013/14 as an "increasingly attractive option for British graduates wanting practical university education for a career". The college added the Flexible Study Business Programme to its roster in 2014 and Media and Communications in 2015, both of which are fully accredited by Teesside University.

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