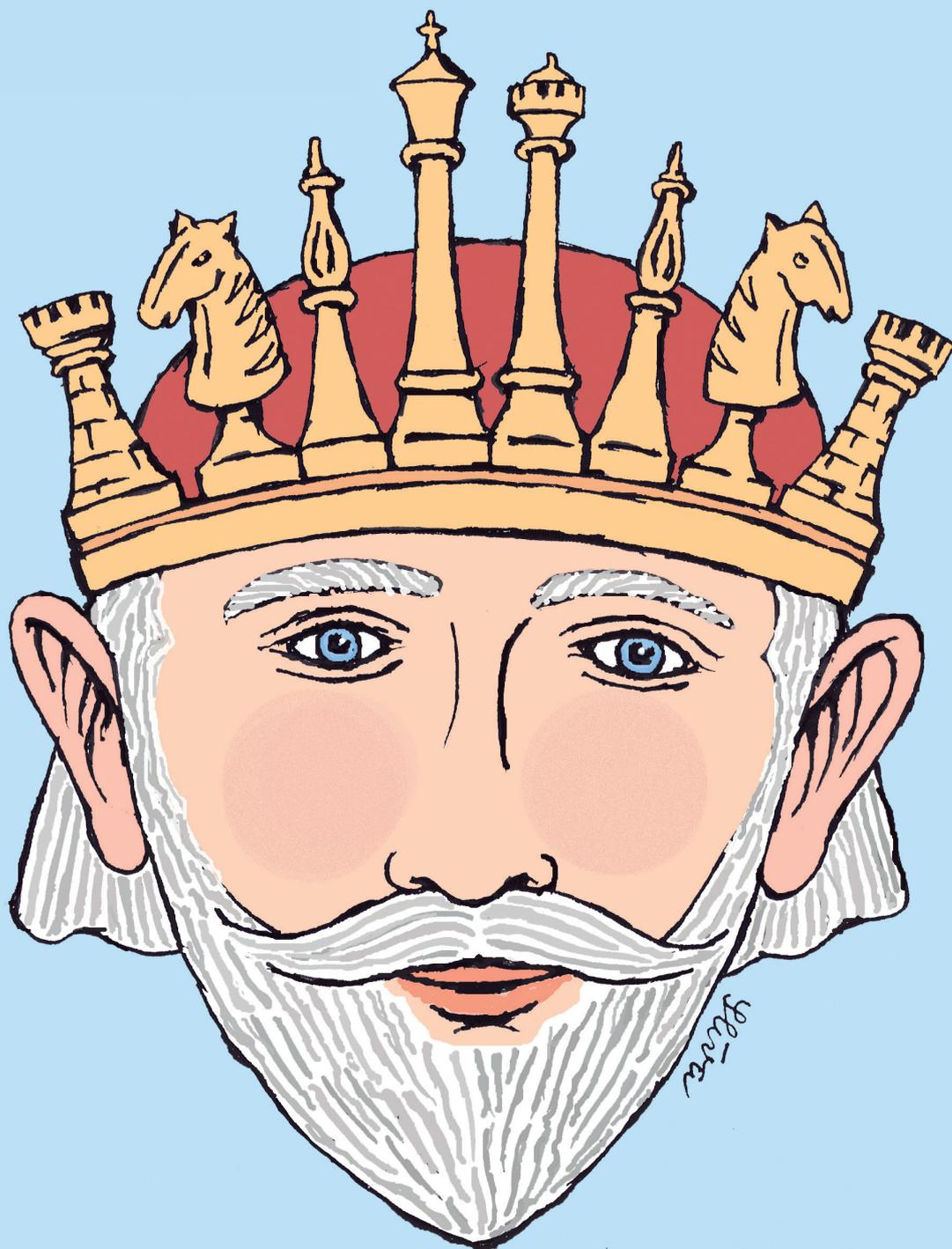
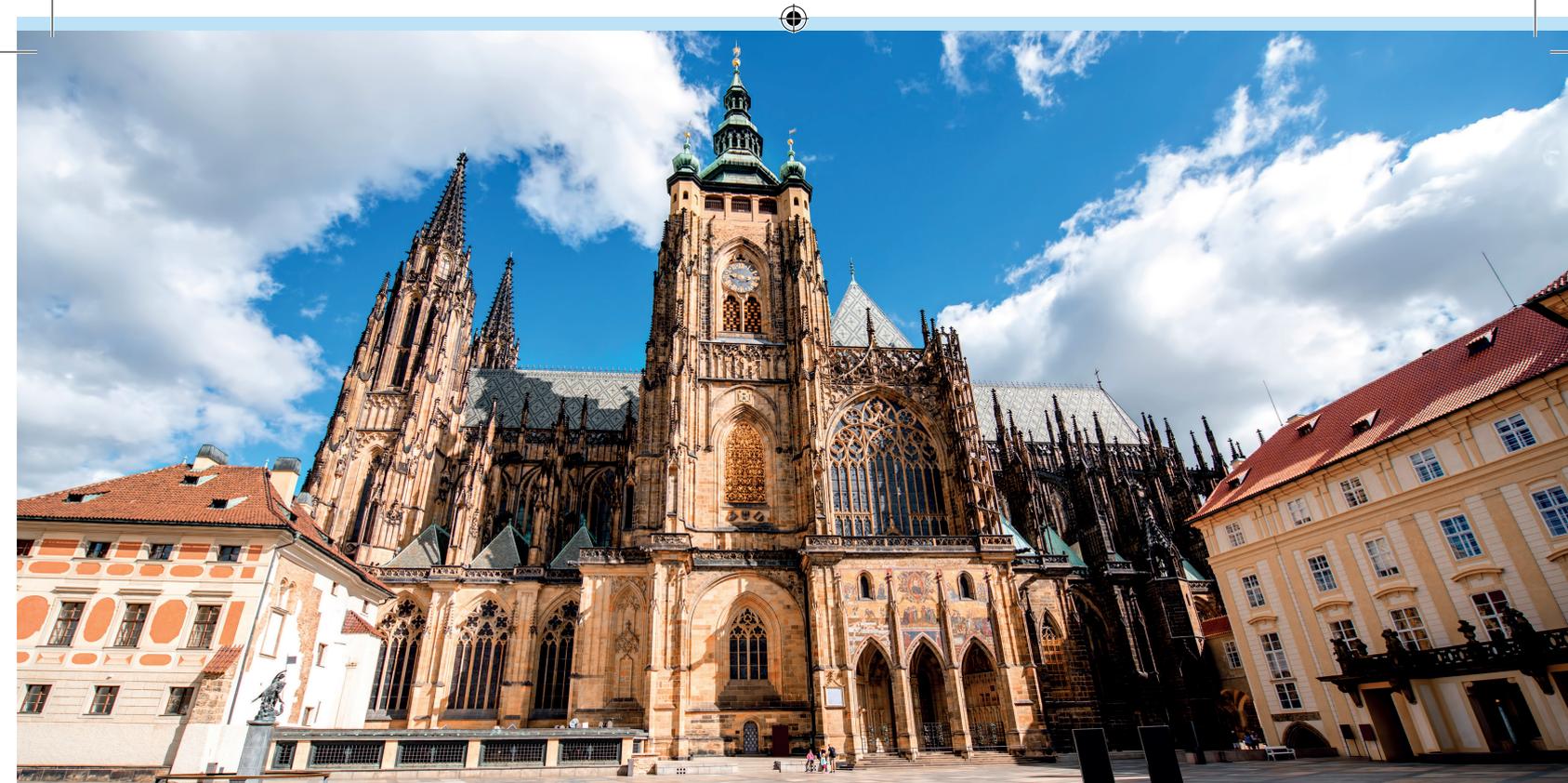


# Bank Chess Festival



under the patronage of the Czech National Bank (ČNB)  
and in co-operation with CERGE-EI



## Chess Festival – Gala, Tournaments and Simuls

- in the center of the ancient town of Prague, in the most beautiful palaces directly connected to the history of the central bank
- under the patronage of the Czech National Bank governor Jiří Rusnok
- in the Congress Centre of the ČNB (Commodity Exchange) and in the halls of the Schebek Palace (seat of the Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education of the Charles University and the Economics Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences)

**28 November – 3 December 2017**



# Accept our invitation...

Do you want to spend a splendid week or perhaps just a weekend in Prague? If so, please accept our invitation to take part in Bank Chess Festival.

You will get the chance to see Prague, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. There will be specially tailored excursions, allowing you to see areas, which are not commonly opened to visitors. You will be invited to trace Prague chess history (the first world chess champion Wilhelm Steinitz was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia was represented by the first winner of female championship, Věra Menčíková, the 1931 chess Olympiad was held there, or in the second half of the 20th century a café, which was situated at palace U Nováků, had become one of the most famous world chess coffee rooms at the time). You will be able to play simultaneous chess games with grandmasters as well as blitz or rapid chess games with players at your level in the luxurious halls of the Czech National Bank or in the ancient salons of the CERGE-EI, where the central bank used to be situated after the foundation of Czechoslovakia in 1918.

At the same time you will get the chance to meet interesting festival guests, among which are not only renown chess players, such as the former world chess champion Anatoly Karpov or the current Czech best player David Navara, but also one of the best world economists, professor at the Yale University and the partner and managing director of the successful hedge fund - Ellington Capital Management, John Geanakoplos, or you can meet the founder of the inter-bank payment system SWIFT, the former chairman of Belgian and Czech Telecom and the president of chess grandmaster association GMA, Bessel Kok. You will also be able to meet your colleagues from different banking institutions around the globe.



# Schedule of the Bank Chess Festival

## Tuesday 28 November

*ČNB Commodity Exchange*

Opening ceremony, banquet (*Main Banquet Hall*)

Opening of exhibition: Chess players and chess motives  
on bank notes and coins  
(*Small Banquet Hall*)

## Wednesday 29 November

*ČNB Commodity Exchange Main Banquet Hall*

Grandmaster simuls

(classic chess and Fischer Random chess)

## Thursday 30 November

*ČNB Commodity Exchange Main Banquet Hall*

Blitz chess tournament

## Friday 1 December

*Schebek Palace – CERGE-EI*

10.00–13.00 Fischer Random chess tournament

15.00–19.00 Rapid chess tournament

## Saturday 2 December

*Schebek Palace – CERGE-EI*

10.00–12.00 Fischer Random chess tournament

14.00–18.00 Rapid chess tournament

## Sunday 3 December

*Schebek Palace – CERGE-EI*

10.00–12.00 Fischer Random chess tournament

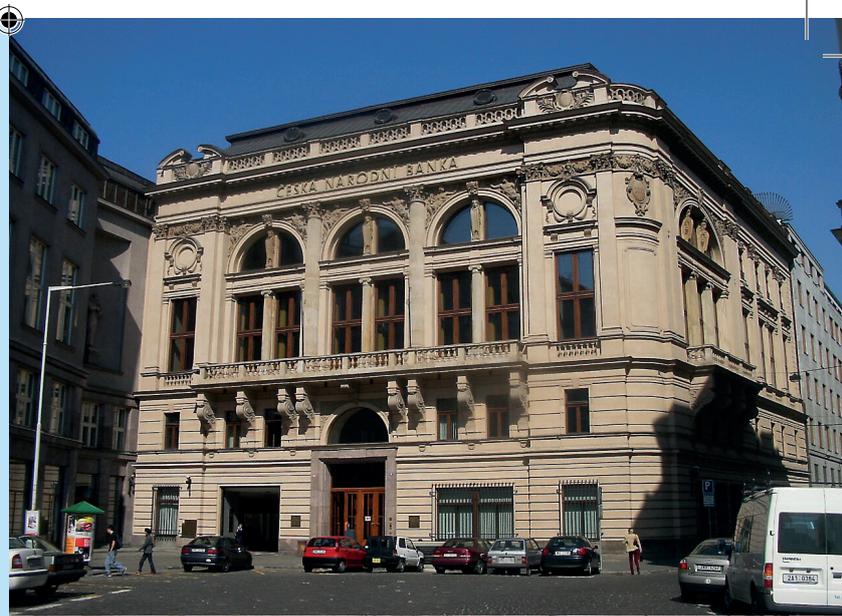
14.00–17.00 Rapid chess tournament

18.00–19.00 Price giving ceremony

# ČNB Palace Commodity Exchange

*Festival will be taking place there  
28 – 30 November 2017*

The palace of the former Commodity Exchange, part of the Czech National Bank building, is one of the most eminent and venerated buildings of the Czech financial world. The spacious complex represents the highest standards of craftsmanship and exhibits a restrained but generous luxury. The Prague Commodity Exchange was built in the 1890s on what was then known as Havlíček square (later Gorkého and nowadays Senovážné), for the purpose of commodity and crop trading. Four eminent architects contributed to the project - Bedřich Ohmann, Rudolf Krighammer, Josef Zítek and Josef Schulz. Ohman and Krighammer designed the original Art Nouveau building, which reflected the style of the nearby Municipal House' and which Zítek and Schulz later altered to a more traditional, neo-renaissance style. The main interior landmarks of the palace are the massive staircase and two Stock Exchange halls – the Large and Small Hall. Due to the increase in trade at the time of the First republic of Czechoslovakia, the building became insufficient for trading requirements, and so between 1928 and 1929 a functionalist extension was built according to Bohumil Hypšman's architectural design. Nowadays, both the Large and Small Hall are used as grand and luxurious conference rooms for the ČNB.



# Schebek Palace

*Festival will be taking place there  
1 – 3 December 2017*

The Schebek Palace became the first seat of the Czech National Bank after the foundation of independent Czechoslovakia on 28 October 1918. It is situated on Politických vězňů street (previously Bredovska). The plot where the Schebek Palace is situated, was already built upon during the reign of King Charles IV in the 14th century. It gained its current neo-renaissance appearance at the end of the 19th century, when the owner, Baron Jan Schebek had an emblematic palace built there. The affluent railway entrepreneur chose one of the most significant Prague architects of the period, Ignac Ullman, to design the palace. From 1890, the building was used for banking purposes, serving as a branch of the Austro-Hungarian bank in Prague. During the Communist era, the building was given to the Czech Academy of Sciences. Since 1991, it has been the seat of the CERGE-EI (Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education - Economics Institute), a joint workplace of Charles University and the Economics Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences. The palace turns the heads of visitors with its monumental frontage and grand marble staircase leading to the palatial main rooms on the second floor. The grandest room of the palace is the so-called Lunette Hall, which features ten lunettes by Victor Barvitijs depicting the romance of Schebek's grandparents.



# Prague Chess Society

The Bank Chess Festival is organized by the Prague Chess Society, which has lengthy experience of organizing extraordinary chess events. These include the "Chess Train", contests between Czech and Slovak managers, simuls of world champions and other famous chess players and 'Snowdrops and Oldhands' (matches between legendary grandmasters with a young generation of female grandmasters). The main partners of the Bank Chess Festival are the Czech National Bank, whose governor Jiří Rusnok has assumed patronage over the event, and CERGE-EI, a joint workplace of Charles University and the Economics Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences.





## Prague Chess Society

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