Prague, 2 May 2024

**Central and East European Book Market - the second edition of the professional programme section of Book World Prague**

**This is the second time the International Book Fair and Literary Festival Book World Prague features a programme section entitled the Central and East European Book Market.**

**CEEBM serves as a platform enabling book industry professionals from Central and Eastern Europe to meet and exchange experience. This edition is characterized by a marked increase in interest in one-to-one business meetings and panel discussions on topics such as bibliodiversity and the search for opportunities for international communication through literature and film.**

The programme of the second edition of CEEBM, which takes place on 23 and 24 May 2024 in the Bohemia Pavilion at the Prague Exhibition Grounds, takes into account this year’s guests of honour of Book World Prague, i.e. German-speaking countries, both by a significant representation of publishers from German-speaking countries and by involving experts from these countries in specialized discussions. The goal is to reflect on the current literary scene in German-speaking countries in relation to the scene in Central and Eastern Europe.

The second edition of CEEBM has attracted great interest from the professional public at home and abroad, both thanks to the successfully established Fellowship and engaging programme and to business meetings, which have a more organized form this year. About 90 foreign and Czech publishers, agents or representatives of various institutions, and other book industry professionals (e.g. authors, illustrators, translators) registered. There will be participants from up to 20 different countries, including the neighbouring countries of the Czech Republic (Germany, Poland, Austria and Slovakia) as well as Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Romania, Spain or Switzerland, and from the north, there will be representatives from Latvia, Estonia and Finland. Thanks to this year’s guest of honour, we are expecting more than 25 publishers from German-speaking countries.

Interested registered participants can enjoy a programme dedicated to common professional topics and participate in discussions. The programme, prepared in cooperation with the Czech Literary Centre, Frankfurt Book Fair and the guest of honour sponsored by the Das Buch project, includes both panel discussions open to all registered visitors to CEEBM and more specialized debates on narrower topics.

The professional programme will be opened by a panel discussion entitled *Building Bridges: Exploring Intercultural Dialogue in Publishing*. Within the discussion with Stephanie Barrouillet (S.B.Rights Agency, Israel), Petra Kavčič (Beletrina, Slovenia) and León Schellhaas (ACHSE Verlag, Austria), the host and CEEBM Coordinator Jitka Hanušová will look for possible ways of establishing cultural contacts and sharing knowledge through literature. On Friday, there will be a panel discussion on blibliodiversity and slow publishing moderated by Barbora Baronová (wo-men) representing the Czech Republic. Together with Annette Beger (Kommode Verlag, Switzerland) and Daniel Beskos (Mairisch Verlag, Germany), they will discuss diversity of genres and topics, sustainability and ecology and cultural decolonization.

On Friday afternoon, two specialized discussions will take place. The first one, on children’s literature in today’s global market, will be moderated by Ivan Fedechko, an external consultant to CEEBM with many years of experience in selling foreign rights to children’s books. The programme will be attended by four representatives of Czech and foreign small as well as large publishers: Saskia Heintz (Hanser, Germany), Tereza Horváthová (Baobab, Czech Republic), Tomáš Jodas (Albatros Media, Czech Republic), Alīse Nīgale (Liels un Mazs, Latvia). The second specialized discussion, *Book-to-Screen*, moderated by Niki Théron (Frankfurter Buchmesse) will feature Frauke Kniffler (Klett-Cotta) and Czech film producer Vratislav Šlajer (Bionaut) who will explain how books find their way to the screen.

On both days, afternoons will be dedicated to business meetings arranged in advance by registered participants with partners active in the book markets of Central and Eastern Europe. The premises of the renovated ﬁn-de-siècle Bohemia Pavilion at the Exhibition Grounds are reserved exclusively for the registered participants and offer a pleasant, professional and well-equipped space for the international book rights trade platform.

In addition, the participants can also enjoy accompanying programmes, such as various networking meetings or a guided tour of the Museum of Literature on Saturday morning.

The programme will be in English with no interpreter.

Contact for media:

Jitka Hanušová

CEEBM Coordinator

+420 606 562 021

ceebm@svetknihy.cz