**GLOBSEC announces appointment of Martin Sklenar as Distinguished Fellow**

*Bratislava, 21 March 2024:* **GLOBSEC welcomes the former Minister of Defence of the Slovak Republic, Martin Sklenar, as its Distinguished Fellow. Sklenar brings a wealth of expertise from his extensive career in government service and international relations to further enhance GLOBSEC's mission to influence the future by generating new ideas and solutions for a better and safer world.**

As a Distinguished Fellow, Martin Sklenar will continue to drive thought leadership initiatives of GLOBSEC’s Future of Security Programme, engage in policy analysis, and foster dialogue among policymakers, experts, and stakeholders to advance understanding and cooperation in critical areas of global security.

“*We are thrilled for Martin to join our team in these challenging times, when effective cooperation and innovative approaches are essential for building a more secure and resilient future*," commented Robert Vass, President and Founder of GLOBSEC.

Reflecting on his new role, M. Sklenar stated: "*I am looking forward to working with GLOBSEC on security and defence issues. The security situation in Europe, especially on the Eastern border of NATO and EU after Russia's illegal and illegitimate aggression against Ukraine, has put security and defence on top of political priorities. In this critical time, I hope I will be able to contribute my expertise and experience to making sure countries at the Eastern border of NATO and EU, but also beyond, will be better able to increase their security and strengthen their defence.*"

Martin Sklenar served as Minister of Defence of the Slovak Republic in a technocratic government from May 15 to October 25, 2023. Prior to this, he held pivotal roles including Director General for Defence Policy at the Ministry of Defence, where he shaped defence policy and international cooperation efforts. Additionally, as Director for Security Policy at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, he played a vital role in Slovakia's engagement with NATO and the European Union's security initiatives.

Sklenar’s vast experience also includes diplomatic postings, such as Head of Political Section at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, DC, where he fostered bilateral relations with the United States. He holds a post-graduate degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the Matej-Bel-University in Slovakia and has enriched his knowledge through expert courses and seminars at institutions like Harvard Extension School and the George C. Marshall Center.

**About GLOBSEC:**

[GLOBSEC](https://www.globsec.org/) is a global think-tank based in Bratislava committed to enhancing security, prosperity, and sustainability in Europe and throughout the world. It is an independent, non-partisan, non-governmental organisation. With its presence in Bratislava, Brussels, Kyiv, Vienna, and Washington, GLOBSEC's mission is to influence the future by generating new ideas and solutions for a better and safer world. To this goal contributes the annual GLOBSEC Forum, one of the leading global security conferences. GLOBSEC also organises the annual GLOBSEC Tatra Summit, a conference that provides the opportunity for experts to have fruitful political discussions on the future of Europe.

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