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**Press release**

## **WEINHOLD LEGAL ASSISTED SLOVAK STATE IN WINNING ARBITRATION WITH AUSTRIAN AIRLINES**

Slovakia won the investment arbitration with Austrian Airlines relating to the aviation company Slovak Airlines. The Slovak state was in this case successfully represented by David A. Pawlak LL.C as the lead counsel and Weinhold Legal as the local counsel in this high profile international investment arbitration proceedings.

A threat that Slovakia may have to pay the Austrian aviation company Austrian Airlines a multi-million EUR award of damages has been removed. Austrian Airlines raised its claim on the basis of the Czechoslovak-Austrian investment protection treaty. The proceeding has been definitely stopped by the international arbitration court, as the Ministry of Finance in Slovakia announced.

The Slovak Ministry of Finance received the final award of the international arbitration court on 20 October 2009. The tribunal in the jurisdiction phase of the case decided fully in favor of the Slovak Republic and stopped the process.

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### **About Weinhold Legal**

Ever since the establishment of the Prague office in 1996 and the subsequent founding of the Bratislava branch office in 1998, the legal practice of Weinhold Legal has maintained a strong presence on the Czech/Slovak markets. The law firm currently boasts a team of fifty highly-qualified experts.

In a competition organised by the publisher epravo.cz, under the auspices of the Czech Bar Association, Weinhold Legal was awarded the accolade "Law Firm of the Year 2008" in the category of Competition Law. Weinhold Legal has been ranked in the annual publication Book of Lists as one of the largest international law firms on the market today and has achieved an impressive rank in the leading law firm directories such as Legal 500, Chambers and Partners, PLC Which lawyer?, IFLR, etc.