**September 9, 2021**

The Warsaw Book Fair was inaugurated today, at noon on Thursday, September 9, in front of the Palace of Culture and Science on the main stage of SCENA GŁÓWN – Kanapa literacka with the participation of the Deputy Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic Milan Němeček, Warsaw Book Fair Director Jack Oryl, Ambassador Czech guest Mariusz Szczygieł and coordinator of the Czech presentation Martin Krafl. The Czech Republic is the main host country in the 11th year, ranking alongside France, Hungary, Germany, Poland and Romania.

*"I am glad that the writer and journalist Mariusz Szczygieł became the patron of Czech hosting, who says that the more Czech literature in Poland, the more ideas that Poles would not attack,"* reminded Martin Krafl.  
  
Immediately after the opening, Radka Denemarková was the first Czech author on one of the trade fair stages. Subsequently, the exhibition "Václav Havel. Politics and Conscience" was ceremoniously opened at the national stand of the Czech Republic with the participation of Michael Žantovský, director of the Václav Havel Library and Taťána Langášková, director of the Czech Centre in Warsaw, to commemorate 85 years since the birth and 10 years since the death of the world-famous playwright and president.

At this year's fair, there are 175 exhibitors from Poland and 9 other countries, including the Czech Republic. These include Spain, Romania, Russia, Iceland and the Scandinavian countries. The Czech Republic will be represented by 12 nominated authors (Michal Ajvaz, Bianca Bellová, David Böhm, Radka Denemarková, Petr Hruška, Petra Hůlová, Galina Miklínová, Alena Mornštajnová, Iva Procházková, Jaroslav Rudiš, Marek Šindelka and Kateřina Tučková) and 3 (Pavel Čech , Milan Děžinský and Michael Žantovský) in the accompanying program. The identity of the national stand follows on from the guest appearances at the Leipzig Book Fair in 2019, which is why AHOJ will often be heard in Warsaw as well.  
  
More information here: <http://veletrhy.mzk.cz/veletrh-varsava.html>

**Klára Přibylová**

Public Relations

Book Trade Department

Moravian Library, Kounicova 65a, 601 87 Brno

T: 00420 541 646 270, 00420 770 190 776

E: [Klara.Pribylova@mzk.cz](mailto:Klara.Pribylova@mzk.cz)

W: [www.veletrhy.mzk.cz/veletrh-varsava.html](http://www.veletrhy.mzk.cz/veletrh-varsava.html)