

# Robotika ako prierezová téma slovenského priemyslu a záverečná konferencia k projektu Integrated policymaking in the area of RDI

Final Conference

2025-04-11

## **AGENDA**

9:00-9:30 *Registration & Breakfast*

9:30-9:40 *Welcome & Opening Remarks*

9:40-10:00 *Keynote Speech on Robotisation in Slovakia*

10:00-10:30 *Presentation on Key Project Deliverables (D3 Focus)*

10:30-10:50 *Coffee Break*

10:50-11:50 *Panel Discussion: Is Robotisation a Horizontal Priority for Slovakia?*

11:50-12:00 *Closing remarks*



# Welcome & Opening Remarks



# Robotika – horizontálna priorita RIS3

*Miroslav Balog*



# RIS3



# McKinsey & KPMG & Draghi

McKinsey  
& Company

## European Deep Tech – Opportunities and Discoveries

An investment perspective

July 2024

McKinsey  
Digital

### Technology Trends Outlook 2024

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KPMG

## KPMG global tech report 2023

Secure value by navigating uncertainty  
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## The future of European competitiveness









Part B | In-depth analysis and recommendations

SEPTEMBER 2024










## Deep Tech can be classified into 8 investment themes – all with recent technological breakthroughs

 <b>Novel AI</b>	 <b>Future of compute</b>	 <b>Novel energy</b>	 <b>Space tech</b>	 <b>Robotics</b>	 <b>Biotech, Foodtech, and Agtech</b>	 <b>Defense tech</b>	 <b>Advanced materials and nano-technology</b>
Autonomous systems, explainable AI, privacy-enhancing tech, semantic AI	Superconductors, quantum technologies, ambient computing, brain-computer interface, AR/VR	Green hydrogen, nuclear fusion, geothermal, next-gen solar, waste heat recovery	Launch, earth observation, in-space manufacturing, nanosatellites, space mining	Humanoid robots, nanorobotics	Synthetic biology, lab-grown food, AI-enabled drug discovery, fertilizers	Cybersecurity, drones	Green concrete, graphene, nanomaterial
<b>Estimated share of European VC investment in emerging Deep Tech in 2023, %</b>							
<b>20-30%</b>	<b>15-20%</b>	<b>15-20%</b>	<b>10-20%</b>	<b>10-20%</b>	<b>5-10%</b>	n/a Overlaps with other themes	<b>1-5%</b>

## Deep Tech can be classified all with recent technologies

Novel AI	Future of compute	Green technologies
Autonomous systems, explainable AI, privacy-enhancing tech, semantic AI	Superconductors, quantum technologies, ambient computing, brain-computer interface, AR/VR	Green nuclear, geothermal, hydrogen
<b>20-30%</b>	<b>15-20%</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Estimated share of total market</b>		

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Cloud and edge computing	54
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Electrification and renewables	88
Climate technologies beyond electrification and renewables	94

	
<b>Defense tech</b>	<b>Advanced materials and nano-technology</b>
Cybersecurity, drones	Green concrete, graphene, nanomaterial
<b>n/a overlaps with other themes</b>	<b>1-5%</b>



## AI and machine learning are key to delivering on short-term ambitions

Of the following technologies, which do you think will be most important in helping your business achieve its short-term ambitions (over the next 0-3 years)?

AI / machine learning (including generative AI)



Edge computing (inc IoT)



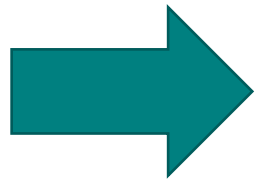
Robotics/automation



VR / AR (including the metaverse)



Quantum computing



# Draghi

## Objectives and proposals

The EU must have the ambition to be a leader in developing AI for its sectors of strength, regain and retain control over data and sensitive cloud services, and develop a robust financial and talent flywheel to support innovation in computing and AI. To achieve this, the EU should aim to:

- Secure a strong position during the next five years in AI embedded in key industrial sectors, such as advanced manufacturing and industrial **robotics**, chemicals, telecoms and biotech based on a set of EU-developed sectoral Large Language Models and Vertical Models.
- Expand the EU's computing capability and capacity of the Euro-HPC network across Europe to serve both science and research, as well as to business ventures.
- Retain control of security, data encryption and residency capabilities within EU companies and institutions and facilitate the consolidation of EU cloud providers.

### 1. Create an EU semiconductor budgetary allocation complementary to Member States' allocations, as well as ensure all other pre-conditions to develop a long-term EU Semiconductor Strategy aimed to boost Europe's open strategic autonomy, by:

- Ensuring a centralised EU budgetary allocation dedicated to semiconductors, allowing Member States' co-investment on priority initiatives and industrial projects of high EU added value.
- Facilitating voluntary R&D and demand requirements to increase the critical mass necessary to support the EU chips industry strategic investments in innovative chips – e.g. shared industry pilot lines in the automotive industry, industrial **robotics**, aerospace, telecoms equipment and medical devices – safeguarding them from EU anti-trust enforcement.

Beside the direct benefits listed above, space activities have several spillover effects for society: economic (including the exploitation of data and services); technological (from solar panels to the most efficient communication protocols); industrial (raising the quality of products given the need for the uninterrupted operation of space systems); **robotics** and remote operations; complex operations planning.

### 2. Revise curricula in light of changing skills needs.

**Curricula will need to be designed and delivered to meet new needs.** The revision of curricula needs to be done through an inclusive approach, with the involvement of teachers, educational providers, social partners, companies and other stakeholders. Rather than focusing on generic programmes, curricula will need to explicitly target the development of the most needed skills within the EU labour market, ideally identified using granular data [see proposal 1]. This implies focusing on the development of:

- STEM skills, for example, by including interdisciplinary approaches that integrate STEM into other subject areas.
- Digital skills, for instance, by incorporating technology and digital literacy, as well as advanced skills in coding, programming and **robotics**.

### 2. Launch an 'EU Vertical AI Priorities Plan'. Within these priorities, the plan would fund key vertical AI models across industrial sectors, built on EU data sharing, safeguarded from anti-trust enforcement. This would encourage EU companies to participate in and accelerate European AI developments, across the following ten strategic industries where European know-how and value capture should be safeguarded:

- Automotive industry and mobility platforms for autonomous driving [see the box];
- Advanced manufacturing and **robotics**;
- Energy, for both grid optimisation, as well as the production and integration of sources [see the box]
- Telecom networks, including edge computing and IoT;
- Agriculture, including space-generated Earth observation data;
- Aerospace;
- Defence;

**Further automation in the automotive industry (e.g. beyond production) has the potential to raise labour productivity and soften constraints concerning labour shortages.** To achieve this, it will be necessary to:

- Level the playing field with competitors when automation is subsidised. As discussed, our competitors show higher labour productivity also because of higher degrees of automation, sometimes in spite of lower labour costs and thanks to subsidies.
- The recommendations on adult learning and curricula in the chapter on skills could contribute to more and improved skills in relation to automation and **robotisation**.

- Specialist skills. Fast technological developments put a higher premium on science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) skills. These so-called 'hard' skills are crucial to mastering the use of new technologies and advancing their development. The nature of many existing occupations is evolving and requirements in terms of specialist skills are increasing. This also concerns a number of traditionally medium-skilled occupations. For example, many manufacturing jobs have involved repetitive tasks, but the advent of new technologies (such as **robotics** or 3D printing) requires manufacturing workers to acquire advanced skills to operate the technologies used today.

**Established advanced manufacturing processes also send strong investment signals further up the critical minerals supply chain.** In the manufacturing sector, developments are taking place at a fast pace, with the European Investment Bank (EIB), for example, providing over EUR 1 billion in financing for Northvolt's battery factory in Sweden<sup>xxiii</sup>. Ensuring the EU's competitiveness in this sector is increasingly assured by the roll-out of advanced technologies and **robotics**.

# Robotika

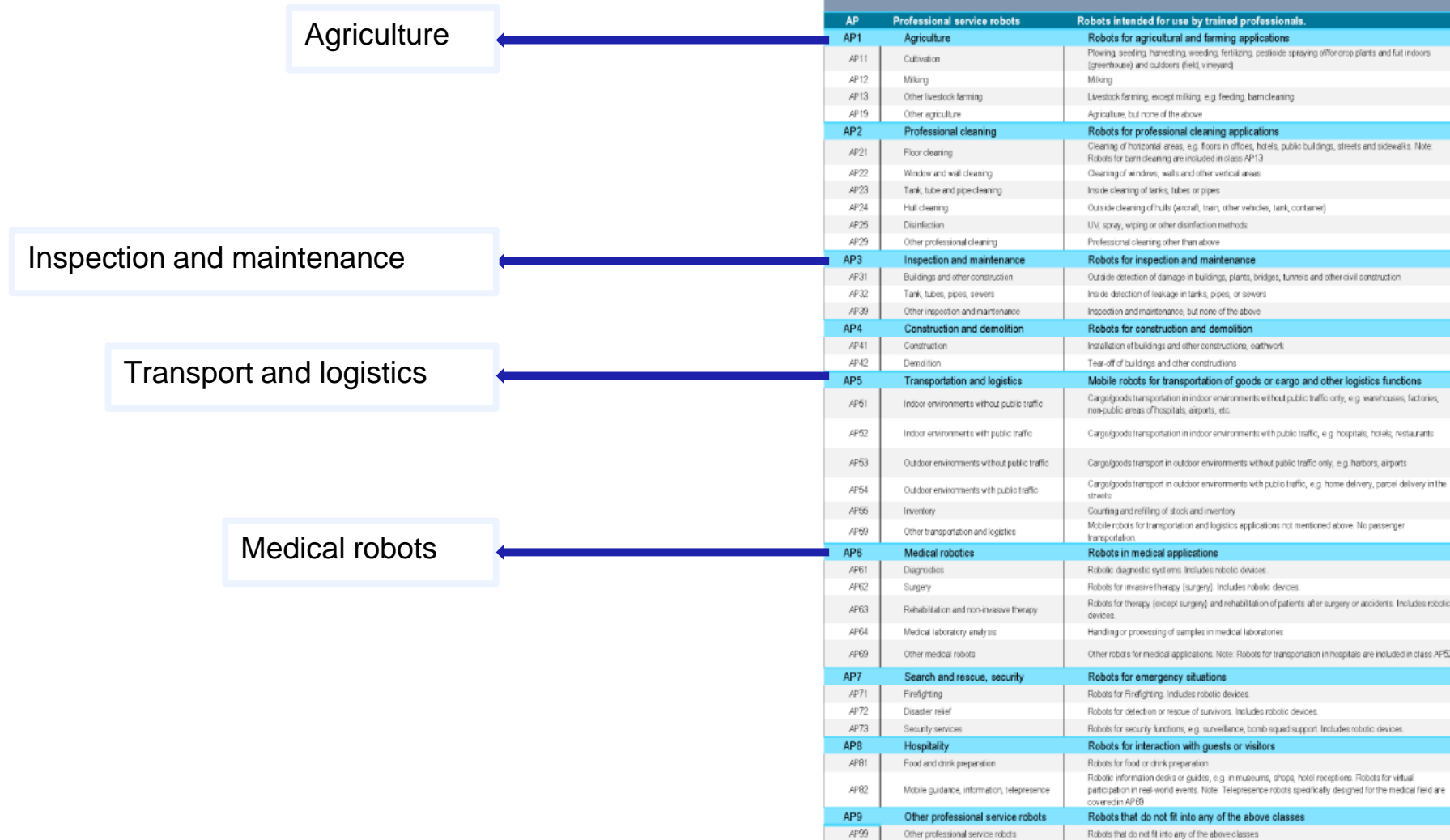
- Priemyselná robotika
  - robotické ramená pevne pripevnené k zemi, stropu a pod.
  - ľahko riadime ich polohu



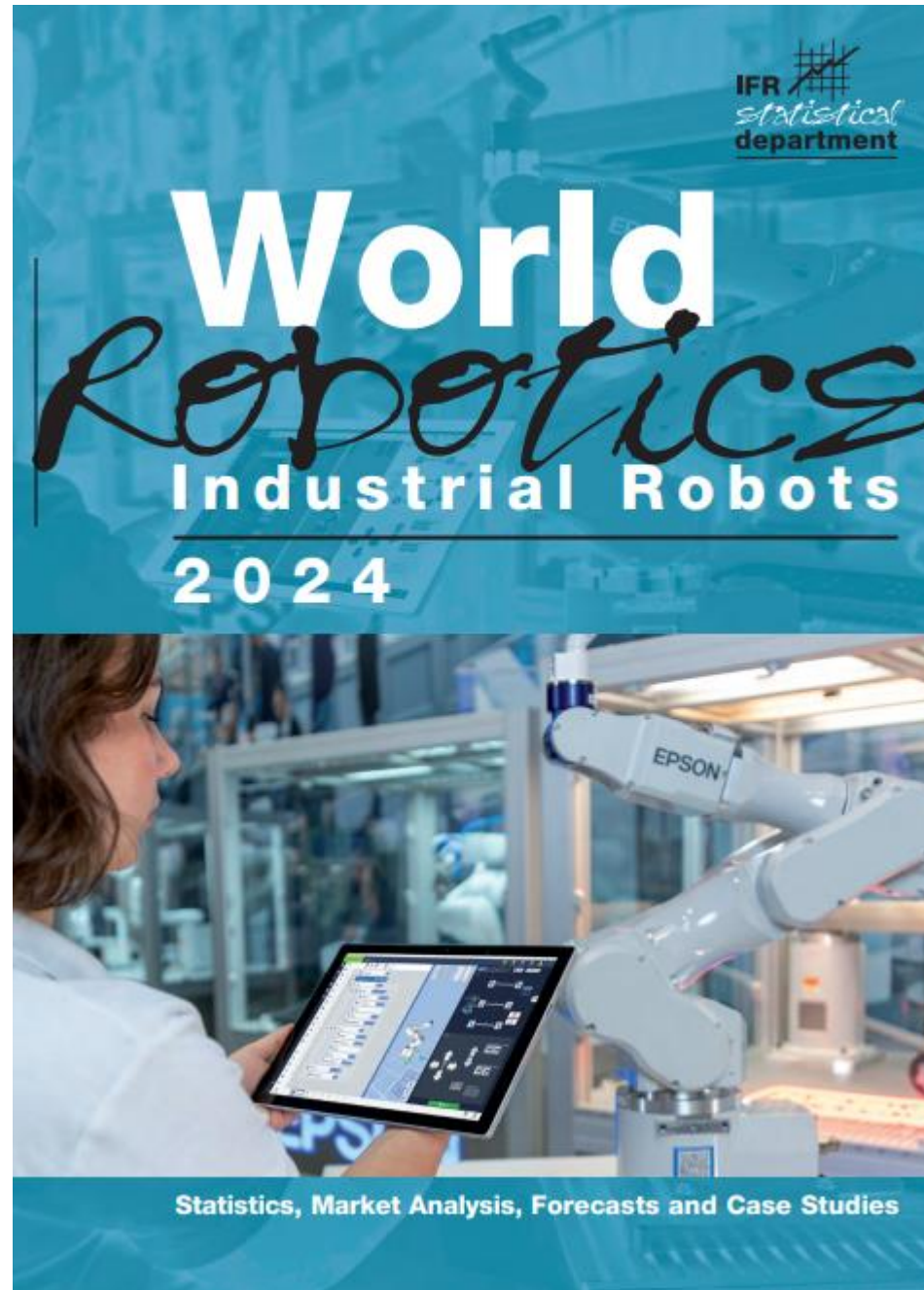
- Servisná robotika
  - poskytuje služby
  - často mobilná (s robotickým ramenom)
  - náročné a nespoľahlivé riadenie polohy



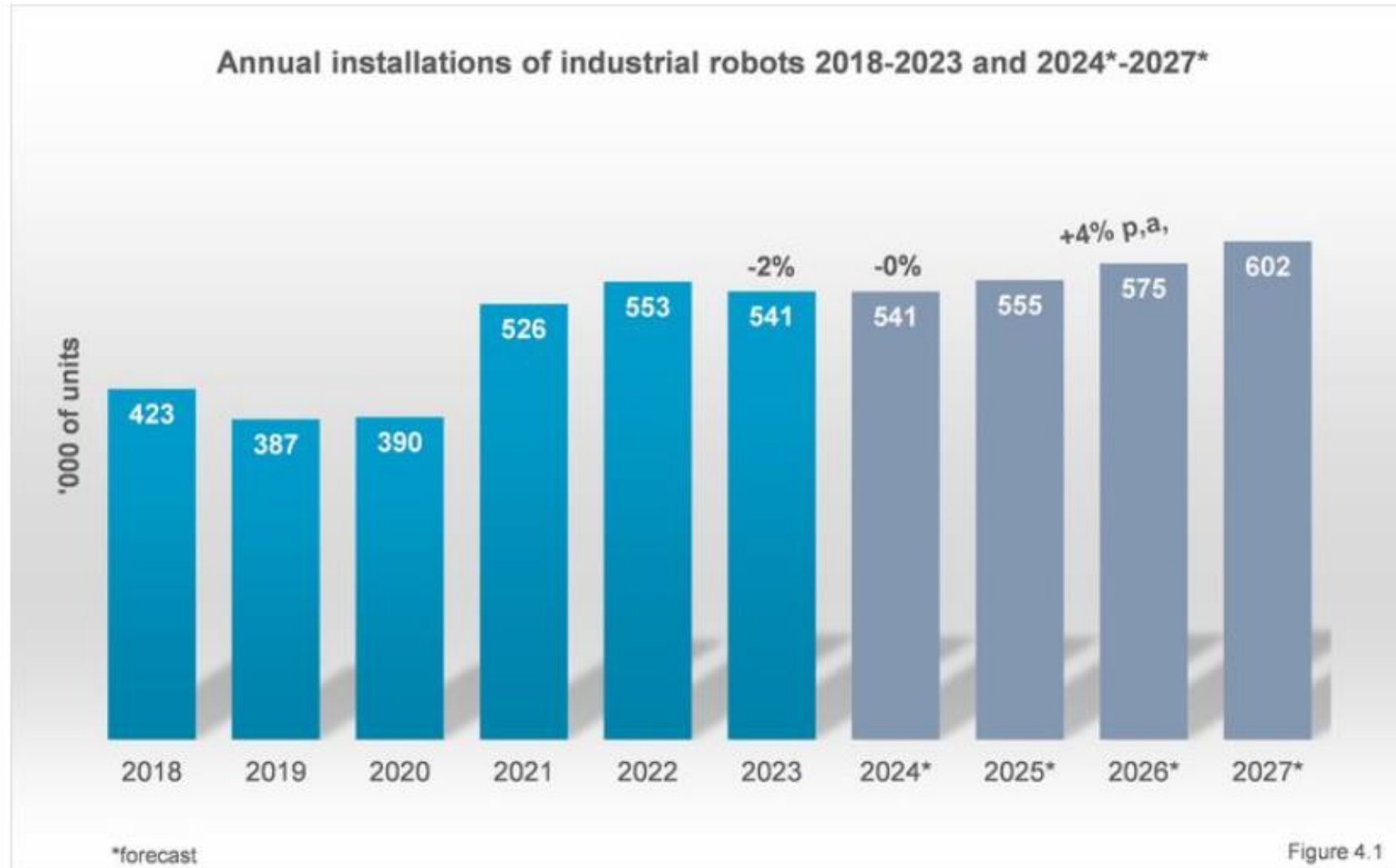
# IFR – International Federation of Robotics



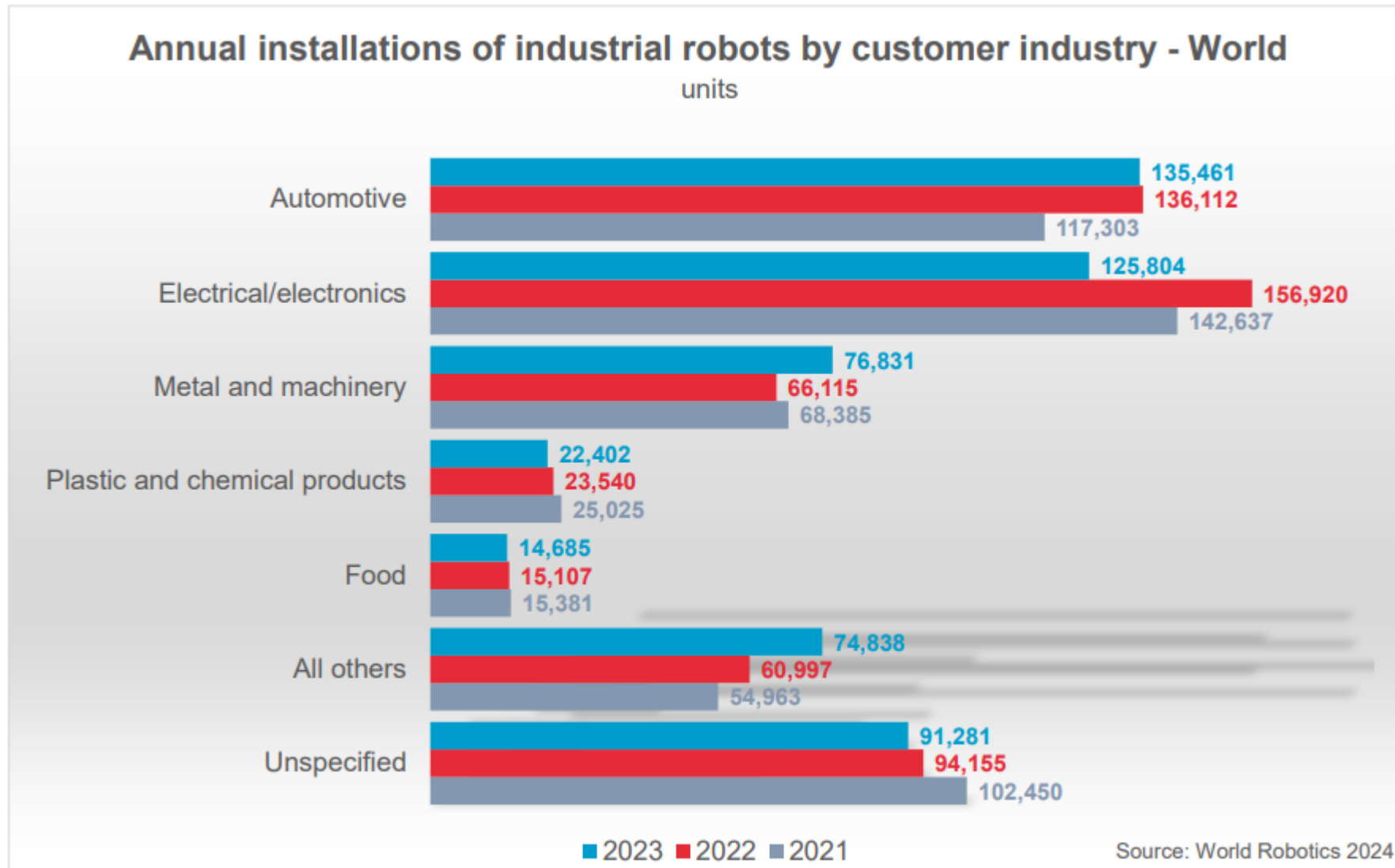
IFR



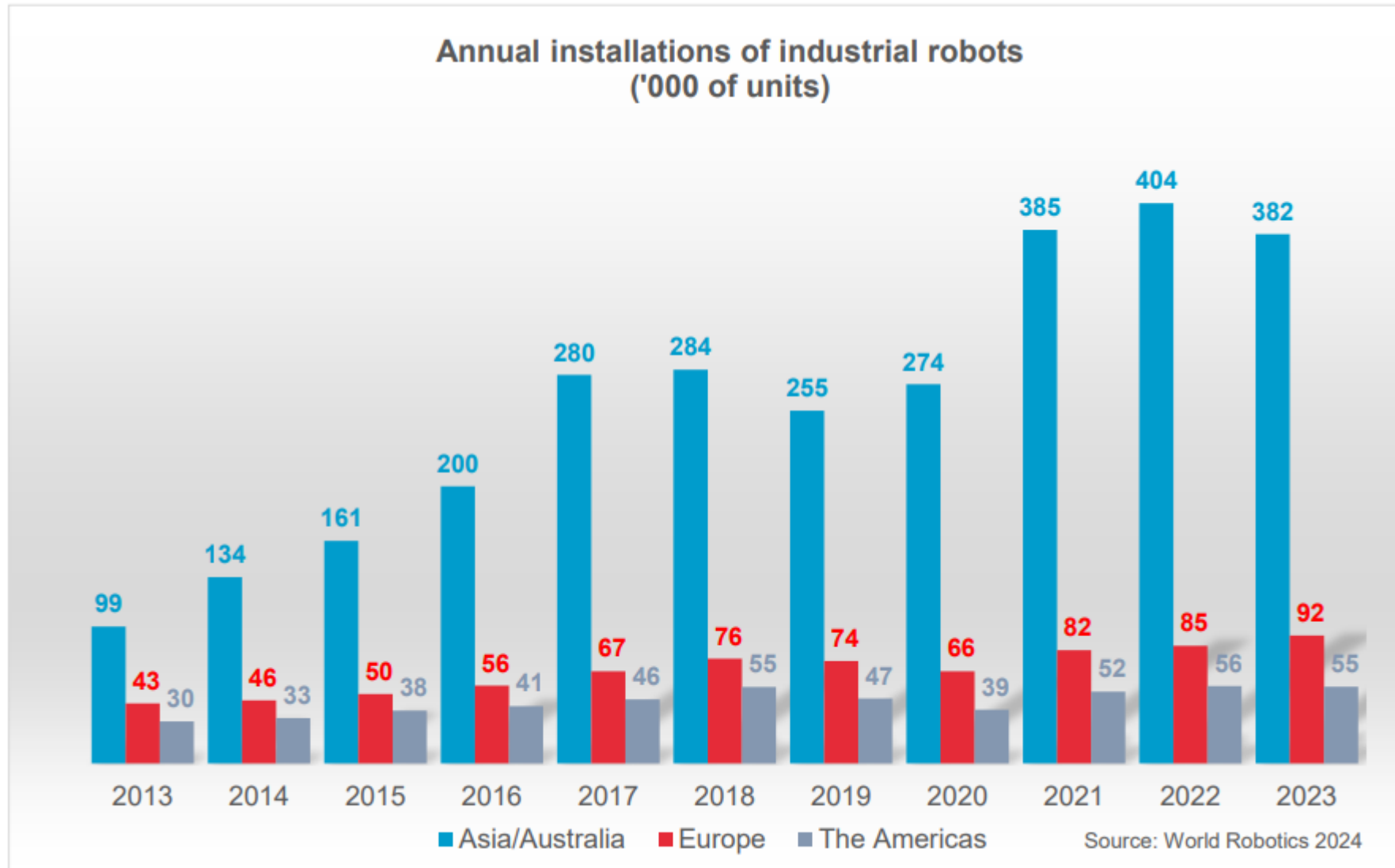
# Priemyselná robotika



# Priemyselná robotika

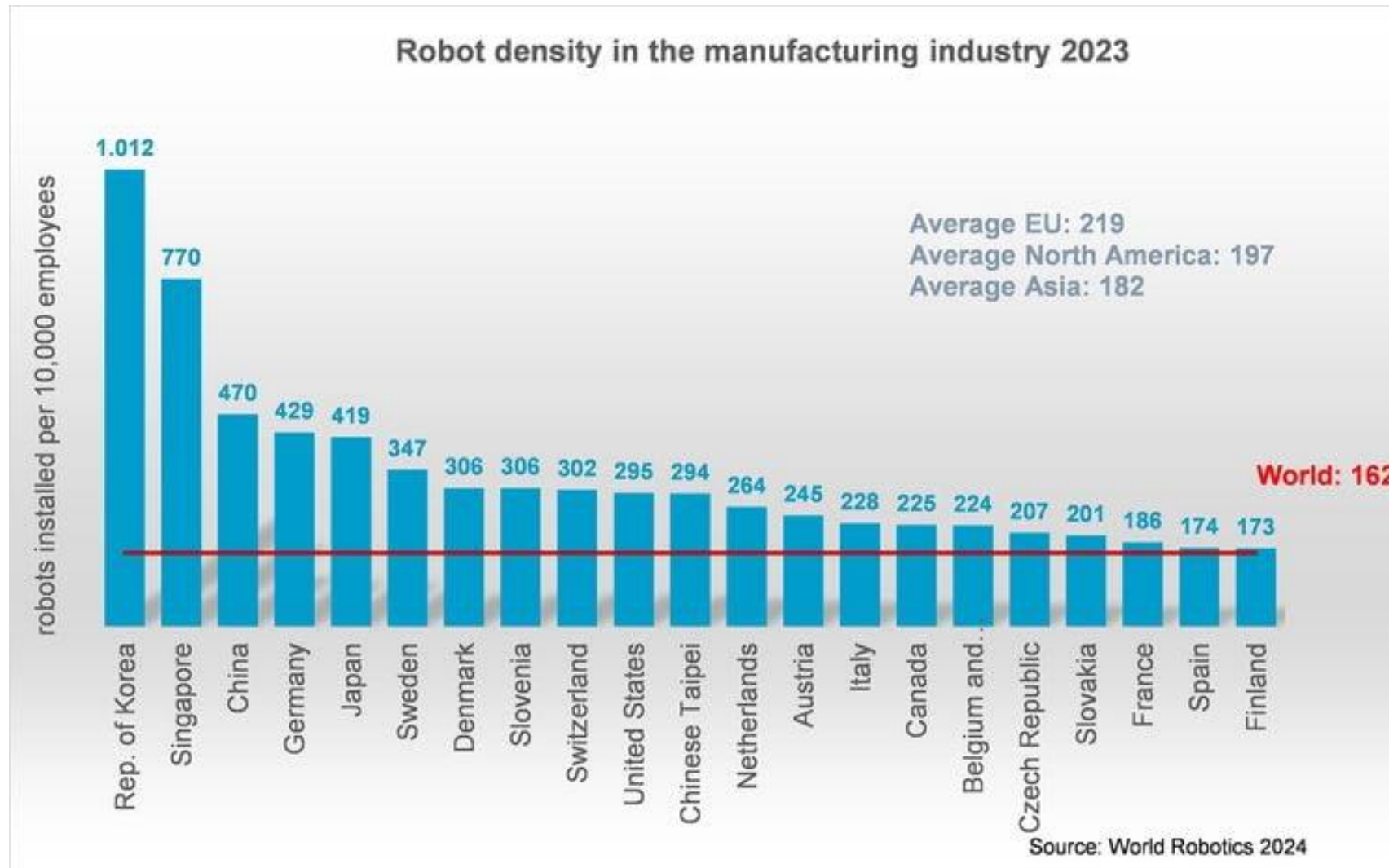


# Priemyselná robotika

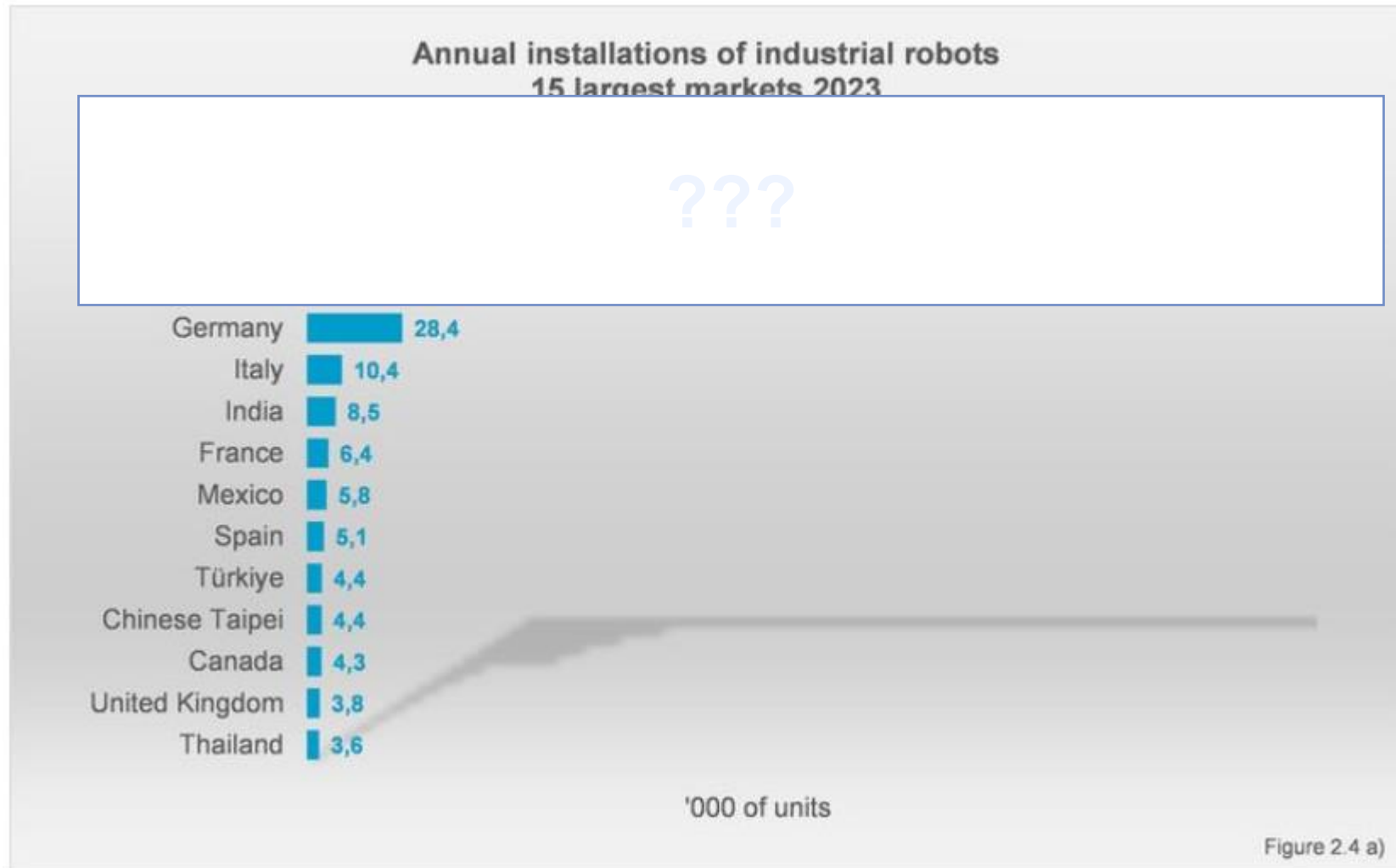




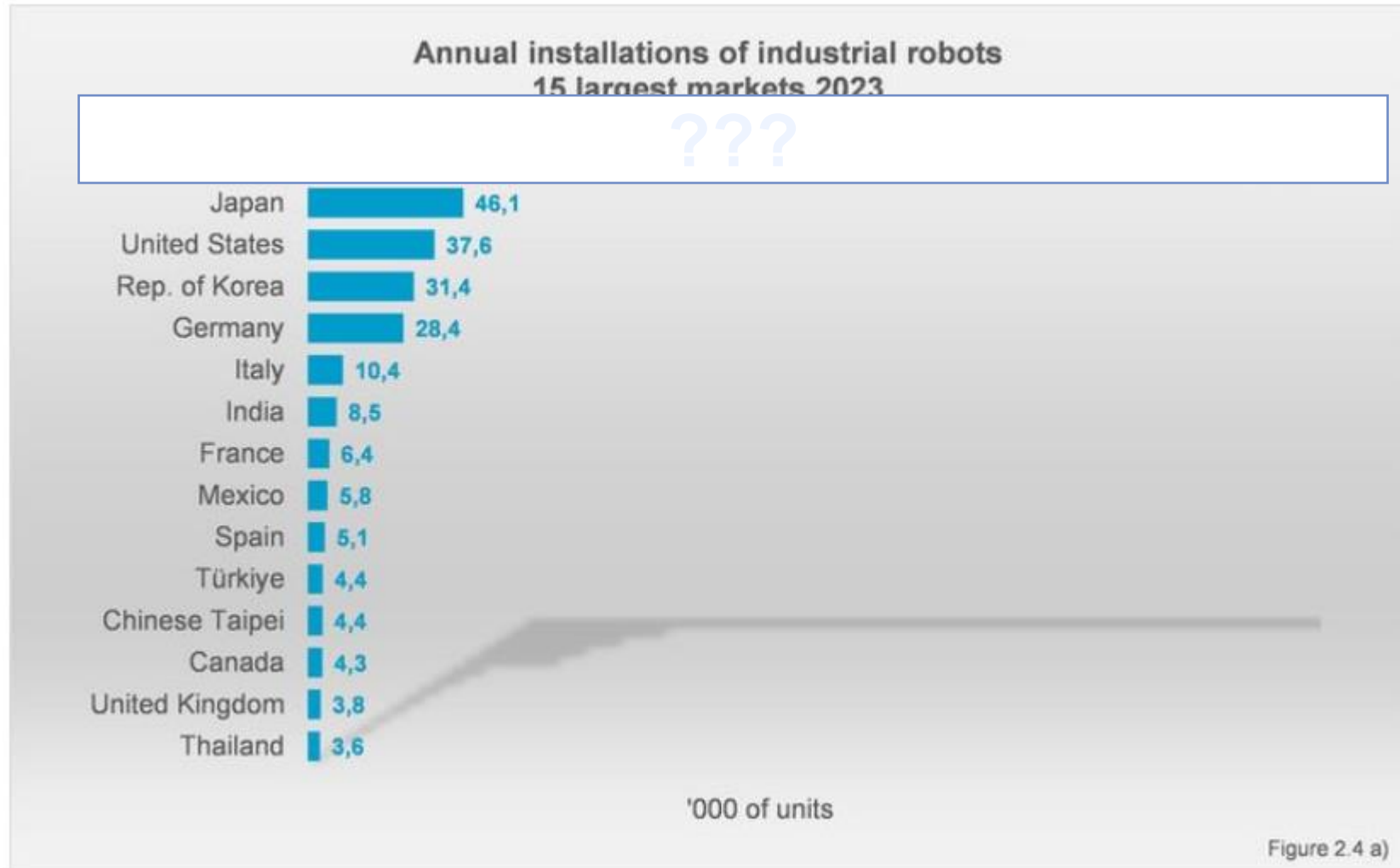
# Priemyselná robotika



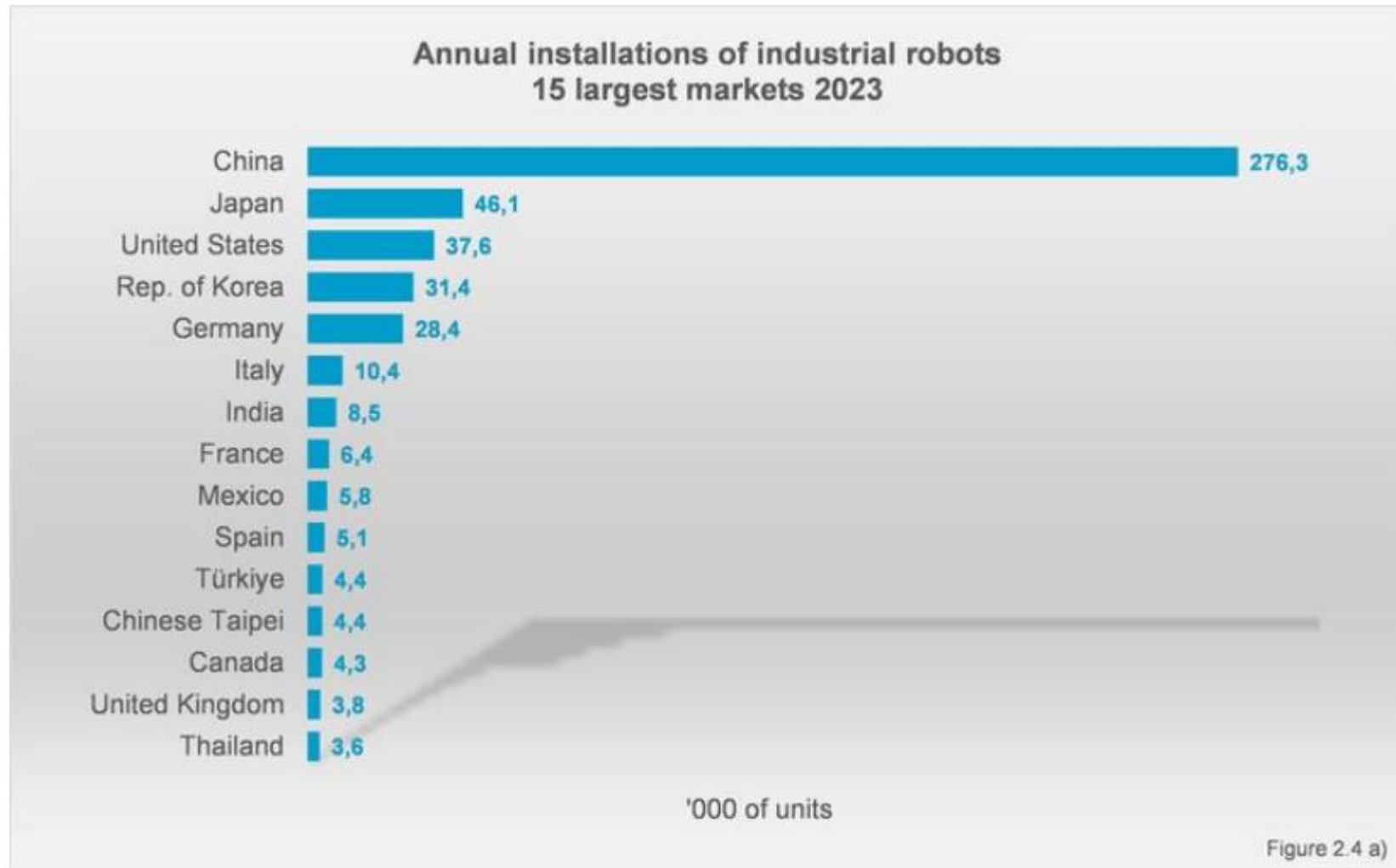
# Priemyselná robotika



# Priemyselná robotika



# Priemyselná robotika



# Servisná robotika

## Professional service robots:

2018: 271,100 units, +61%

2019: 361,300 units, +33%

2020: 495,500 units, +41%

2021: 700,100 units, +41%

2022: 1,019,300 units, +41%

## Service robots for domestic/household tasks:

2018: 16.3 million units, +59%

2019: 22.1 million units, +35%

2020: 30.4 million units, +40%

2021: 42.7 million units, +40%

2022: 61.1 million units, +40%

## Service robots for entertainment:

2018: 4.1 million units, +8%

2019: 4.5 million units, +10%

2020: 4.9 million units, +10%

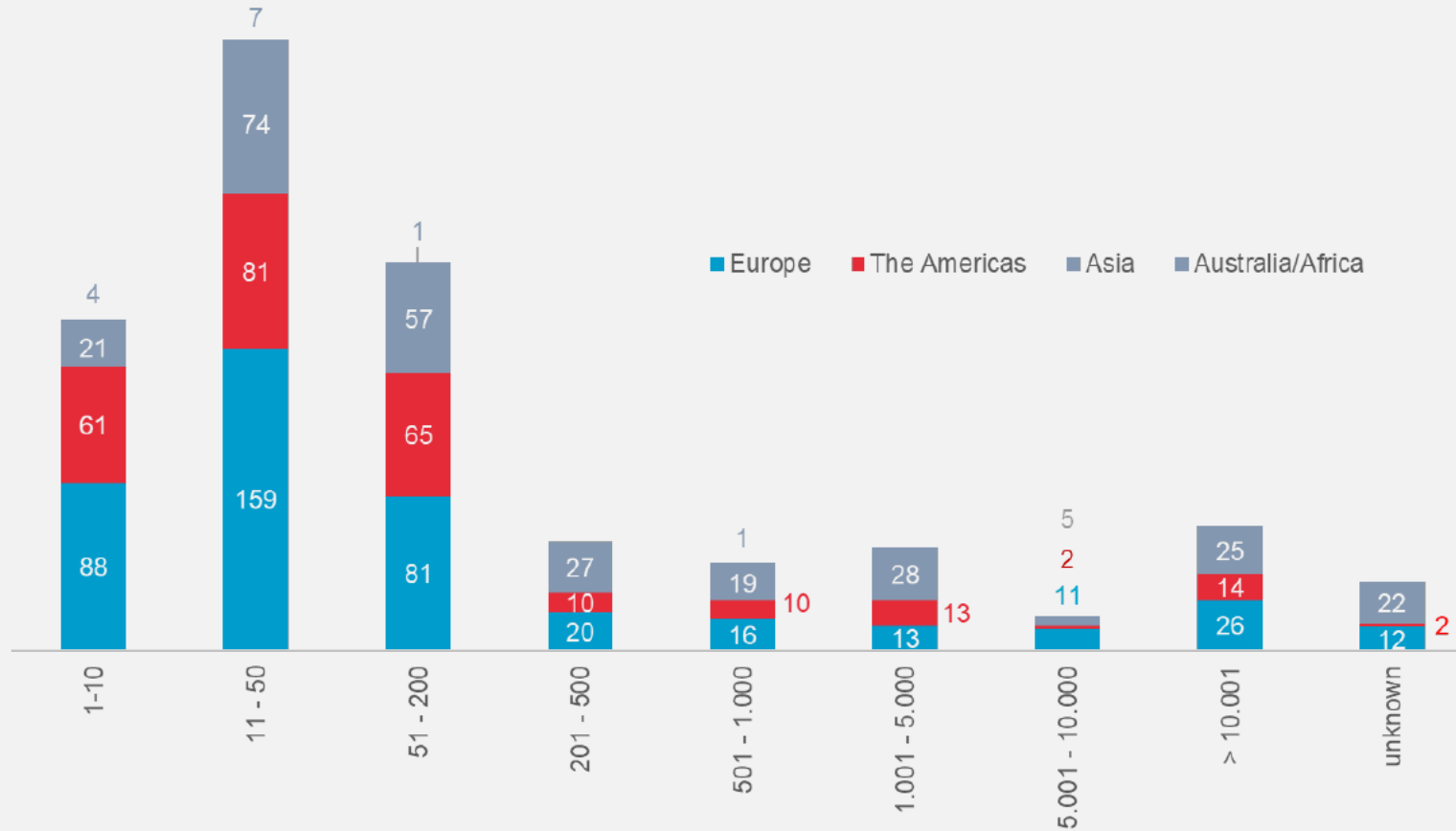
2021: 5.4 million units, +10%

2022: 5.9 million units, +10%

# Servisná robotika

81% of service robot suppliers are small-medium sized enterprises\*

Number of service robot manufacturers by business size (number of employees)

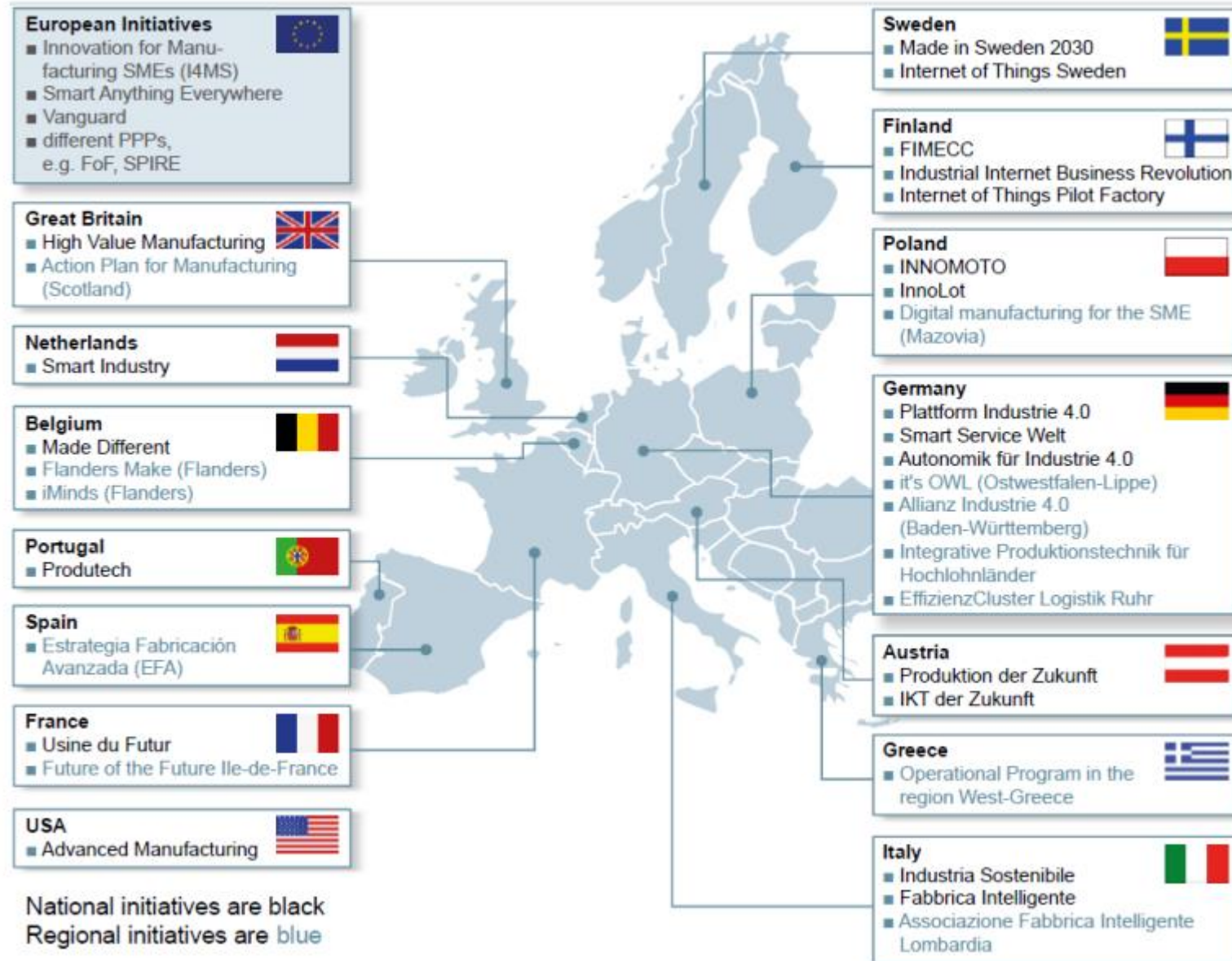


\*(SME with <=500 employees)

Source: World Robotics 2023



# Podpora v Európe

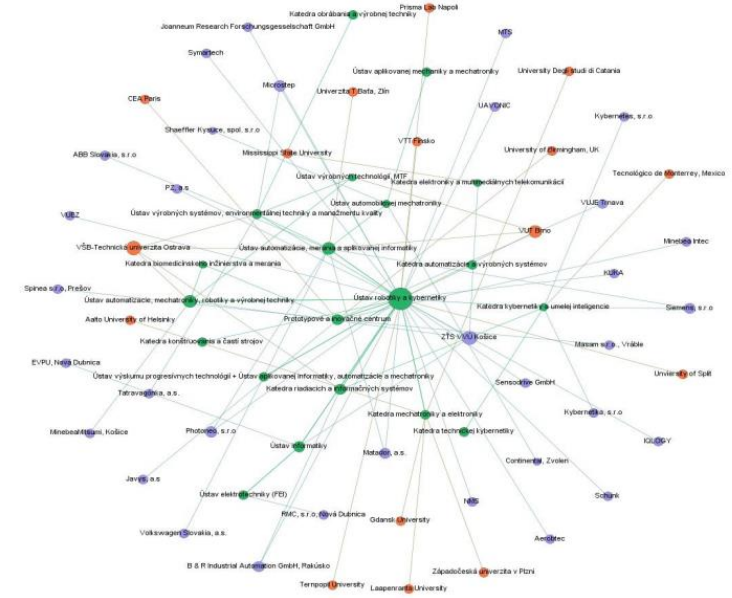
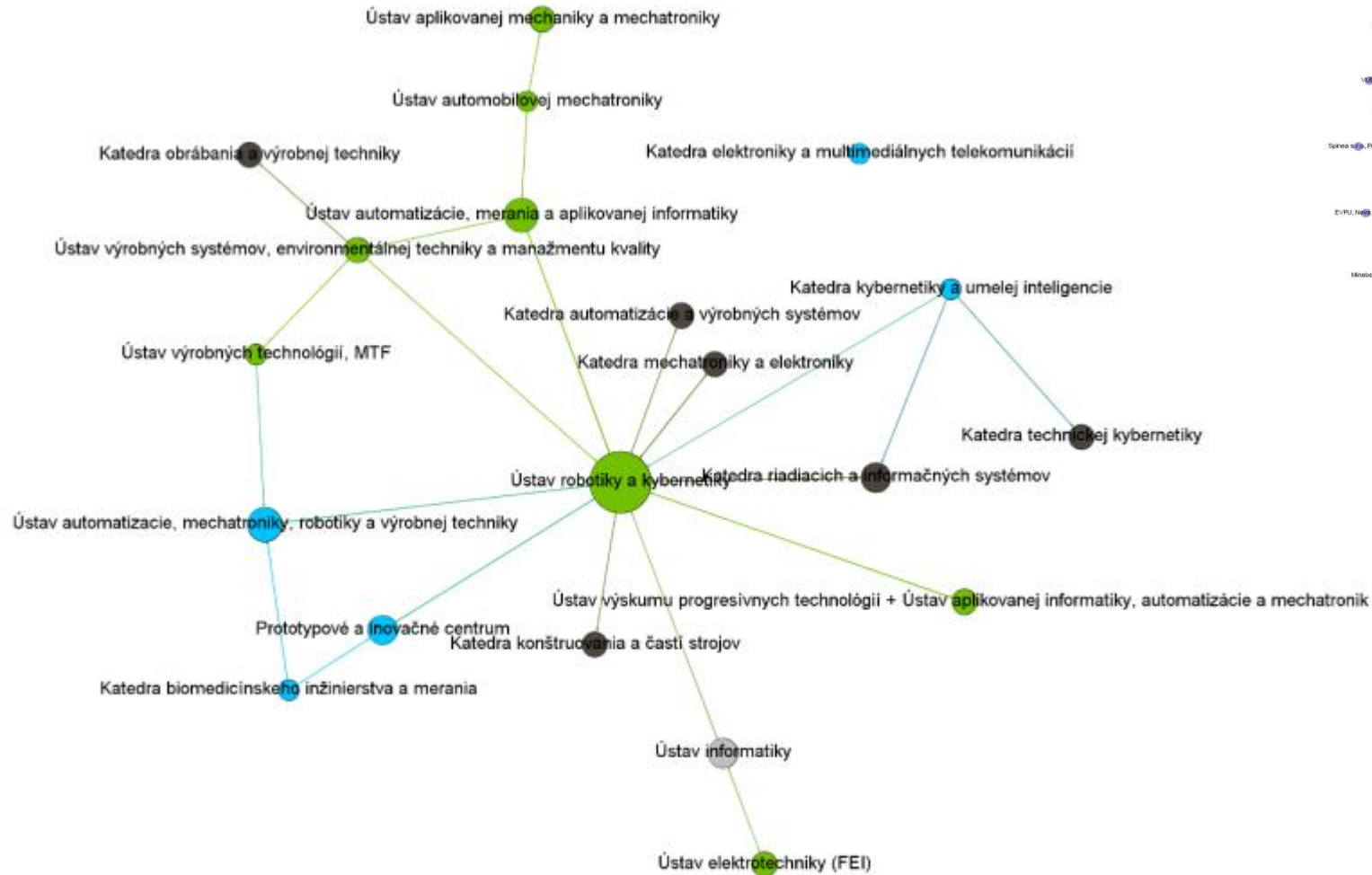


# Východiská rozvoja





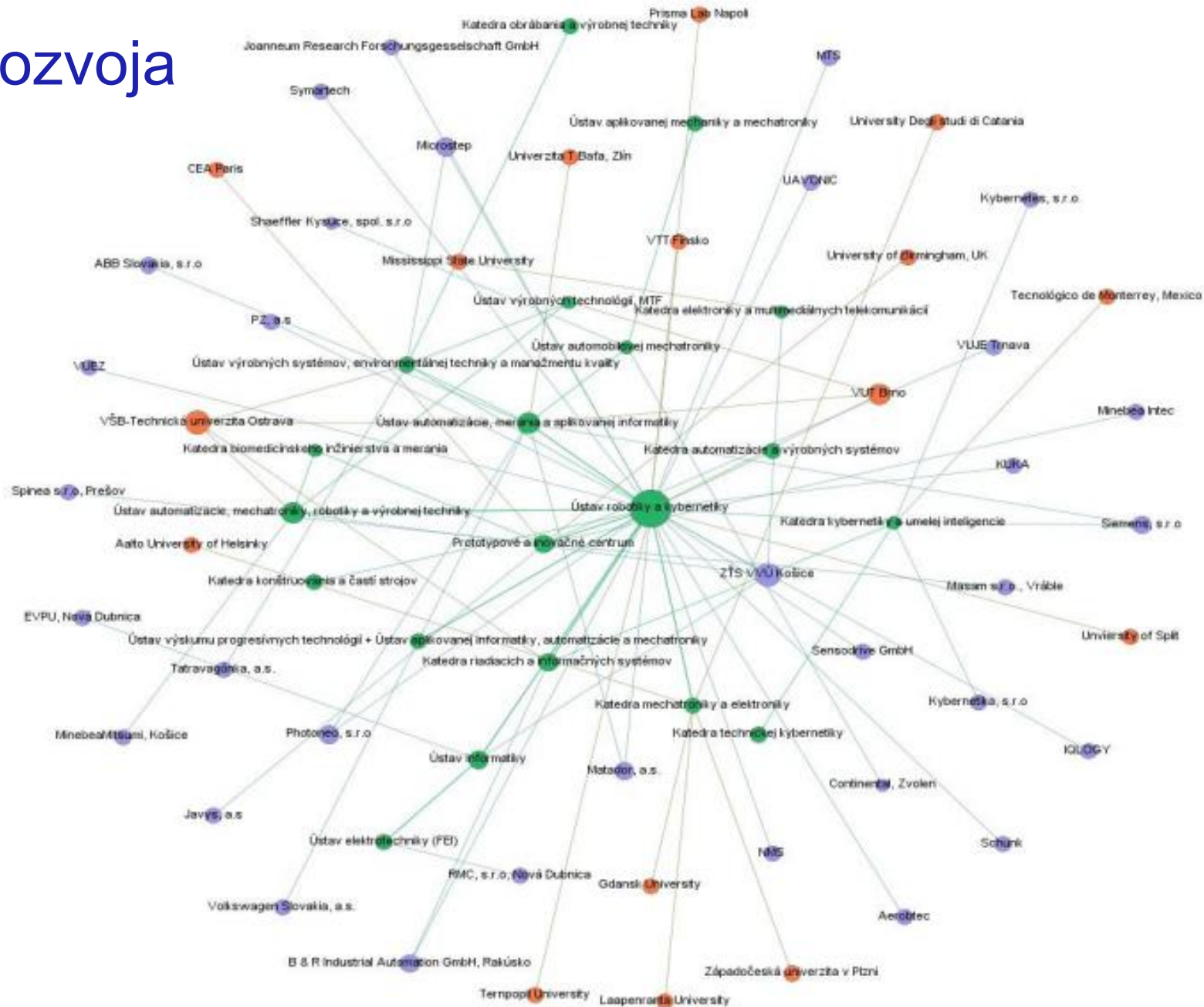
# Východiská rozvoja



Modrá farba – Technická univerzita v Košiciach, Zelená farba – Slovenská technická univerzita v Bratislave, Tmavo sivá farba – Žilinská univerzita v Žiline, Svetlo sivá – SAV





# Východiská rozvoja



# Odporúčania

- Opatrenia procesného charakteru (7)
- Opatrenia v oblasti infraštruktúry (4)
- Opatrenia podpory motivácie (5)
- Opatrenia v oblasti finančnej podpory (8)
- Opatrenia v oblasti budovania značky a propagácie (2)
- Opatrenia podpory komercializácie (5)
- Opatrenia v oblasti vzdelávania (5)

# Odporúčania

- Opatrenia procesného charakteru (7)
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  - Opatrenia v oblasti budovania značky a propagácie (2)
  - Opatrenia podpory komercializácie (5) 
  - Opatrenia v oblasti vzdelávania (5)
- Optimalizácia systému grantovej podpory
  - Implementácia mechanizmov podpory VaV atraktívnych pre podniky a verejné VaV organizácie
  - Zjednodušené vykazovanie výdavkov
  - Umožnenie financovania projektových pracovníkov prostredníctvom grantov
  - Podpora zapájania do medzinárodných projektov
  - Zmena systému hodnotenia projektov so zameraním na kvalitu
  - Tvorba finančných nástrojov pre VaV
- Tvorba komplexného mechanizmu podporujúceho rozvoj start up a spin off firiem
  - Podpora akademického rastu aj počas podnikania
  - Podpora ochrany duševného vlastníctva
  - Podpora zavádzania technológií v podnikoch
  - Zabezpečiť manažérske vzdelávanie vedeckých pracovníkov

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# Presentation on Key Project Deliverables



# General objective of the project

The **general objective** of this service contract is to contribute to institutional, administrative and growth-sustaining structural reforms in Slovakia, in line with Article 3 of the TSI Regulation. The **specific objective** of this service contract is:

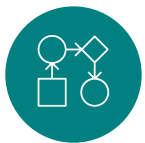
- to assist national authorities in improving their capacity to design, develop and implement reforms;
- to assist national authorities in improving their capacity to prepare, amend, implement and revise recovery and resilience plans under Regulation (EU) 2021/241, in line with Article 4 of the TSI Regulation.



# Technical Support Instrument

*Supporting reforms in 27 Member States*

The Technical Support Instrument (TSI) is the EU's main instrument for providing tailor-made technical expertise to Member States to support the design and implementation of reforms. It is a demand-driven tool that does not require co-financing and plays a key role in enhancing the resilience of Member States' economies and societies. The TSI contributes to sustainable, inclusive growth and supports recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.



Covers all stages of the reform process: preparation, design, development, and implementation



Encompasses a broad range of policy areas, including climate action, digital transition, and health



Offers strategic and legal advice, analytical support, capacity building, and on-the-ground expertise



Supports the preparation and implementation of national Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRPs)





# PPMi

- Leading European research and policy analysis centre based in Lithuania
- Policy analysis, evaluation services and public management consulting to EU institutions/agencies
- 100+ full-time researchers, data scientists and consultants across 23 countries.
- A part of Kantar Public Group from July 2023, which was renamed to Verian Group



Relevant experience from the "Roadmap for the integration of the Lithuanian industry into European value chains" project



PPMI data scientists created the RDI database, go-to source for technology data to European Commission



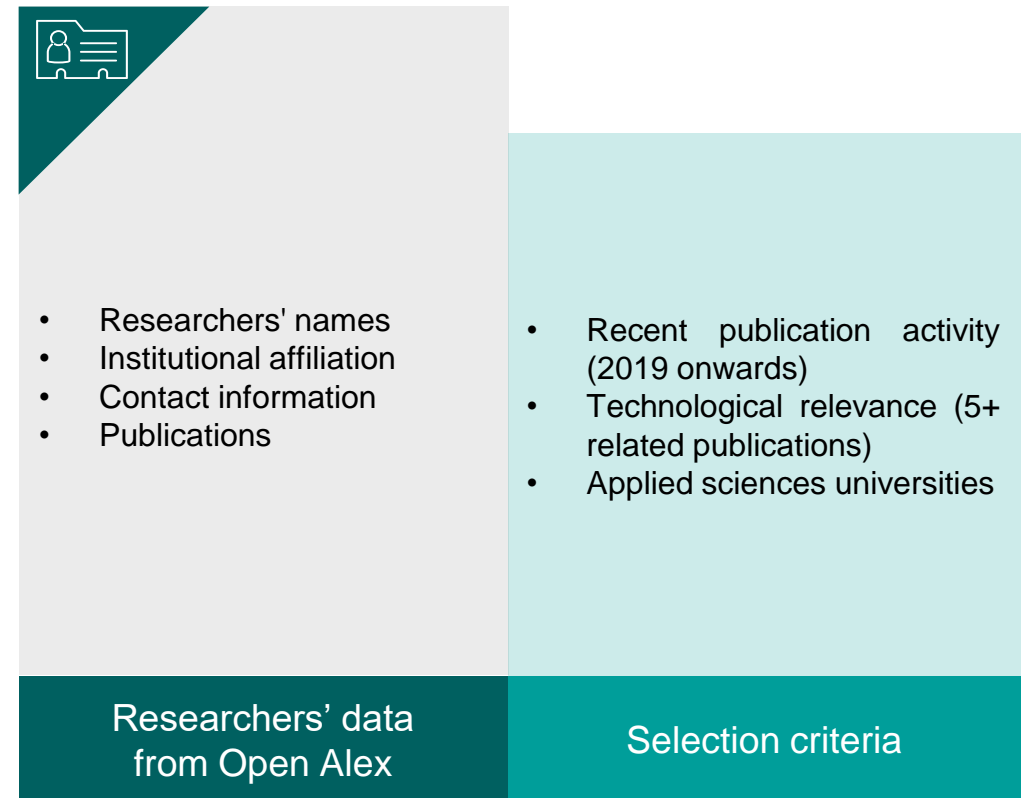
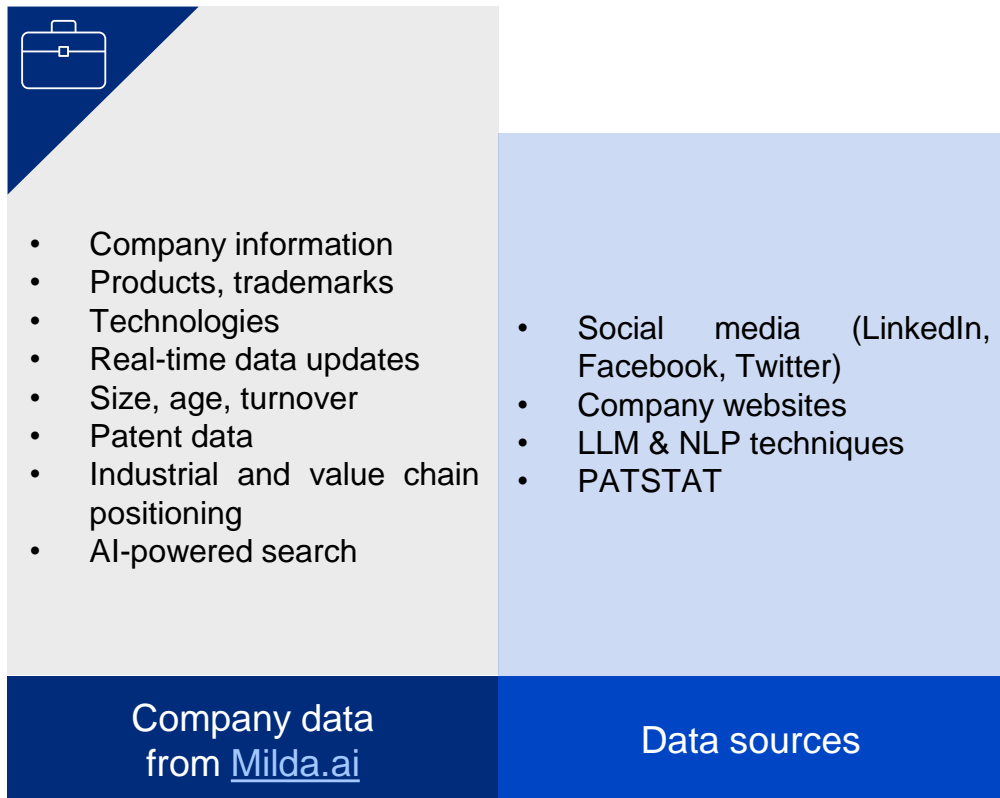
One stop shop source for company and technology data in EU and globally



Led a large FWC Supporting assessment and monitoring of industrial research, innovation, and technologies for DG RTD



# Industrial Performance Assessment: Approach to Data Collection



# Approach to Data Collection: company data collection with Milda.ai

The screenshot shows the Milda.ai interface with the following components:

- Navigation:** Milda.ai logo, SEARCH, MY DATA EXPORTS, INBOX (0), SUPPORT, and a user profile icon.
- Search Bar:** "Build a B2B list" and "Qualify your CRM leads".
- Filters:**
  - Country:** Slovakia (selected), SEE ALL.
  - Region:** (empty), SEE ALL.
  - Industry:** Comput..., Automot..., Electron..., R&D, Energy (selected), SEE ALL.
  - Value chain:** R&D, Softwar..., Design..., Machin..., SEE ALL.
  - Additional filters:** Relevance Score, Momentum Score, Locations.
- Search Results:**
  - Sample search:** EV charging infrastructure providers in the UK, Biogas plant operators in Germany, B2B data providers, Salesforce consulting in the US, Digital solution for incineration process.
  - Summary:** All companies (108), Events last quarter (1), Overview, Top companies, Top events.
  - Table Headers:** #, COMPANY, KEY ACTIVITIES, RELEVANCE, MOMENTUM, COUNTRY, INDUSTRY, AGE, HEADCOUNT, TURNOVER, PATENTS.
  - Table Rows:**
    - GREENWAY INFRAS...**: Charging station deployment; Electric vehicle charging services; Network operation;... (100% relevance, Top-10% momentum)
    - MATADOR GROUP**: Production of car components; Software development; Hardware manufacturing; 3D modeling (100% relevance, Top-10% momentum)
    - INOBAT**: Battery production; Research and development; Innovative design; Electric vehicle battery supply;... (100% relevance, Top-5% momentum)
    - SEAK ENERGETICS**: Smart lighting control; Energy management; Electric vehicle charging; IoT device connectivit... (100% relevance, Top-50% momentum)
    - BROADBIT**: Smart charging system design; Standard compliance implementation; AC/DC charger... (100% relevance, Not ranked momentum)
    - UGV CHARGERS**: Production of electric car charging stations; Development of charging station managemen... (91% relevance, Top-10% momentum)
    - IMC SLOVAKIA**: Production of complex machines; Assembly of lines; Manufacturing of simple parts; Assembly of... (90% relevance, Top-50% momentum)
    - UDENCO**: EV charging solutions development; Sourcing specialist (90% relevance, Top-25% momentum)

VARIABLE	SOURCE
Company name	Company's social media accounts (e.g., LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter) OR landing page
Key activities	LLM based on the website information about products and services
Description	LLM based on the website information about products and services
Company website	The company's URL
Country	URL domain, LinkedIn data, and website information predicted by LLMs
Locations	Company's website
Patents	PATSTAT
Industries	LinkedIn data AND website information predicted by LLM
Age	LinkedIn data AND website information predicted by LLM
Headcount	LinkedIn data AND website information predicted by LLM
Turnover	Company's website information predicted by LLM
Total number of products	Company's website
Value chain positions	LLM



# Validation with experts



- Regular check-ins with VAIA
- Monthly progress reports and meetings
- Systematic and ad hoc communication

Internal validation



- Stakeholder workshops for deliverable feedback
- Validation of preliminary findings by experts
- Final conference sharing project outcomes

External validation



Workshop | 7 Feb 2025 | VAIA, Bratislava



# D3: Horizontal Pilot

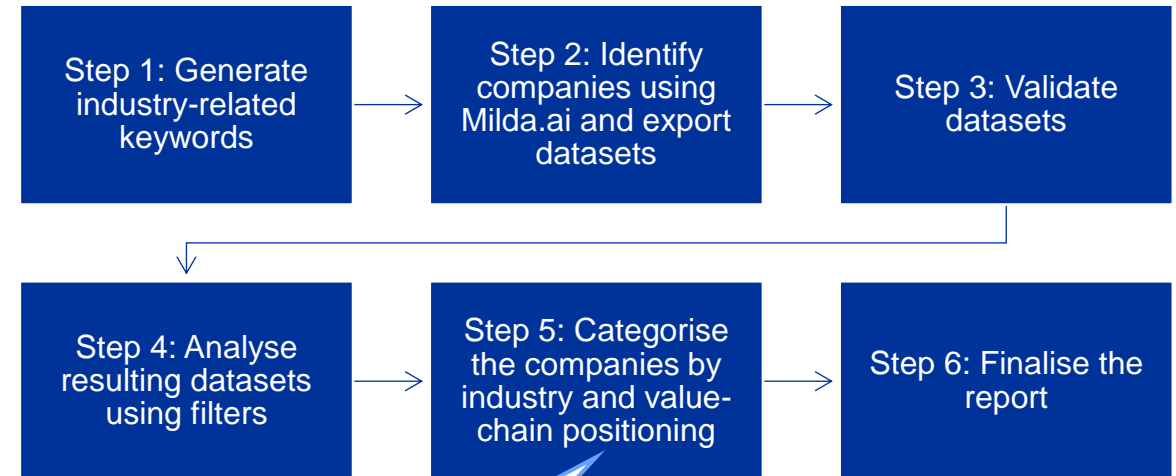
*Extensive report on the Slovak industrial automation & robotisation ecosystem*



# Objective & Methodological Approach

- **Main Objective:** Assess Slovakia's **Industrial Automation and Robotisation ecosystem**, identify growth areas, and position its performance within the regional Visegrád context.
- **Data source:** Milda.ai identified 2,463 Slovak companies using keywords based on expert research and AI input (ChatGPT).
- **Analysis:** Companies were assessed by size, age, industry, and operations.

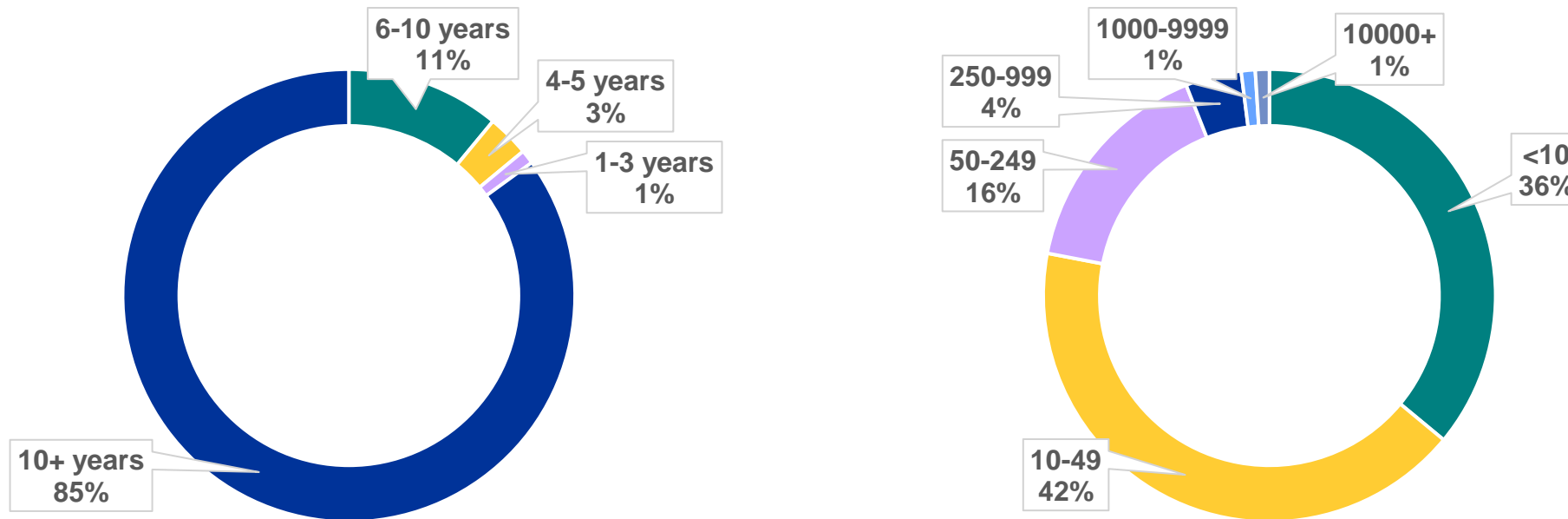
## *Data-driven approach to industry scoping*



# The ecosystem is dominated by mature small and medium-sized companies

*Established players dominate the market. Potential challenges to scaling up.*

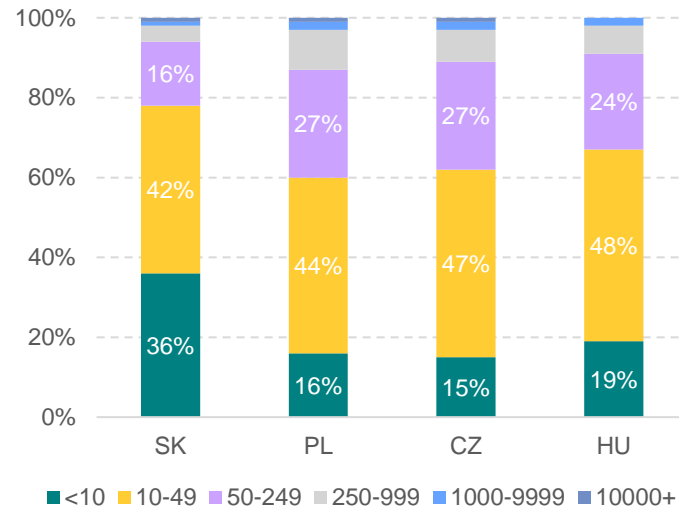
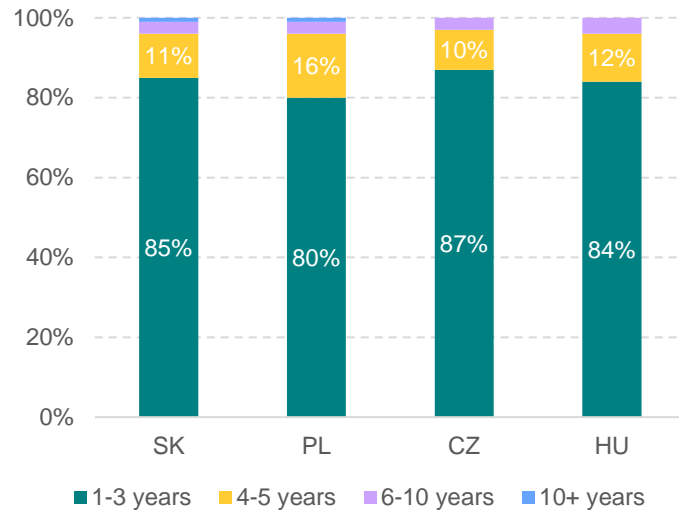
*Analysed companies by age and headcount*



# Slovakia in Visegrád context

*Visegrád region is dominated by mature SMEs*

*Analysed Visegrád companies by age and headcount*



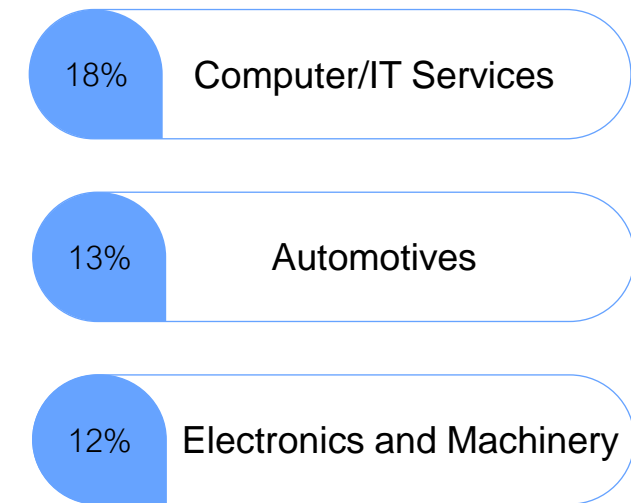
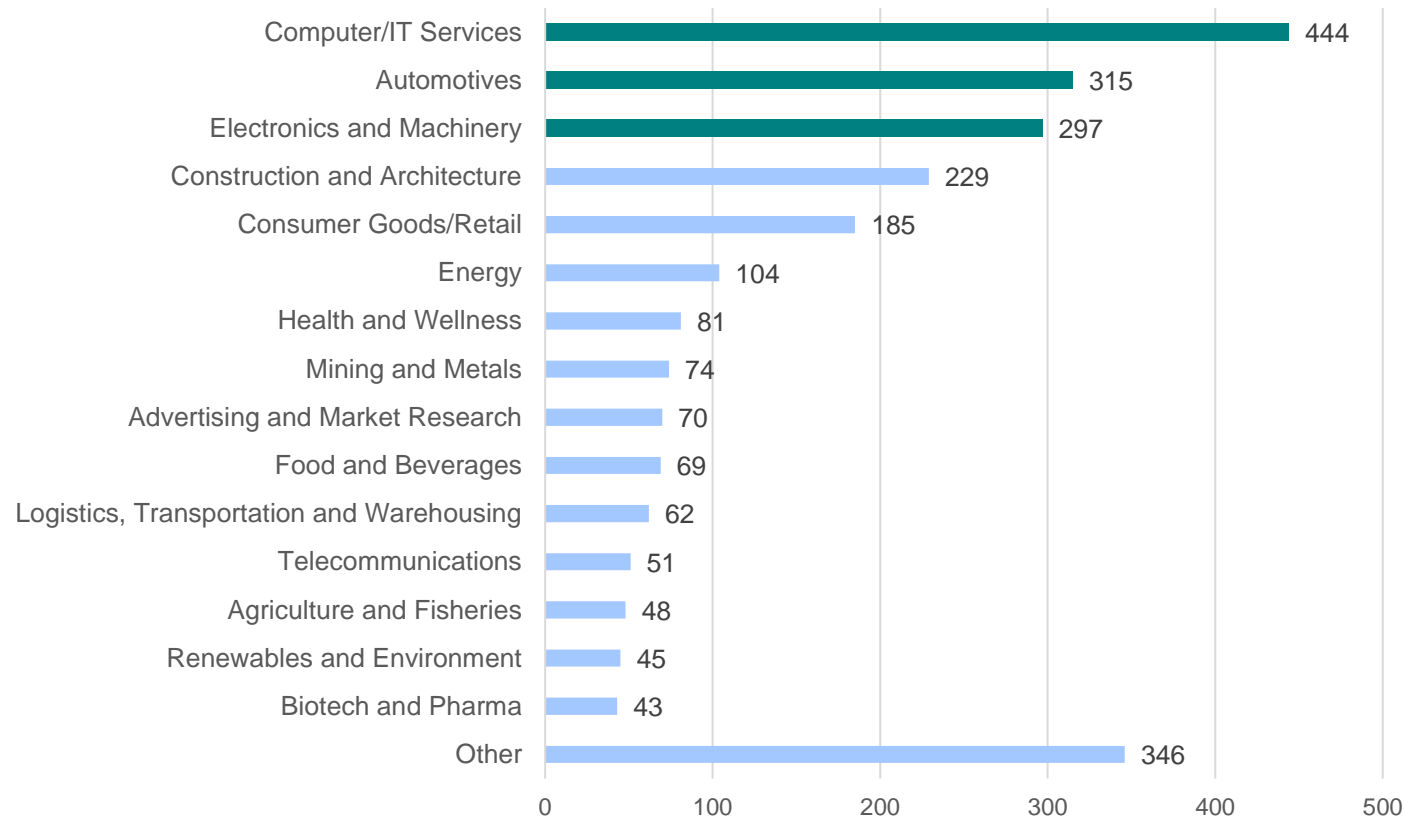
Powered by Bing  
© Microsoft, OpenStreetMap





# Value chain positioning

*Key industries leading innovation are Computer/IT, Automotive, and Electronics and Machinery*



# Value chain positioning

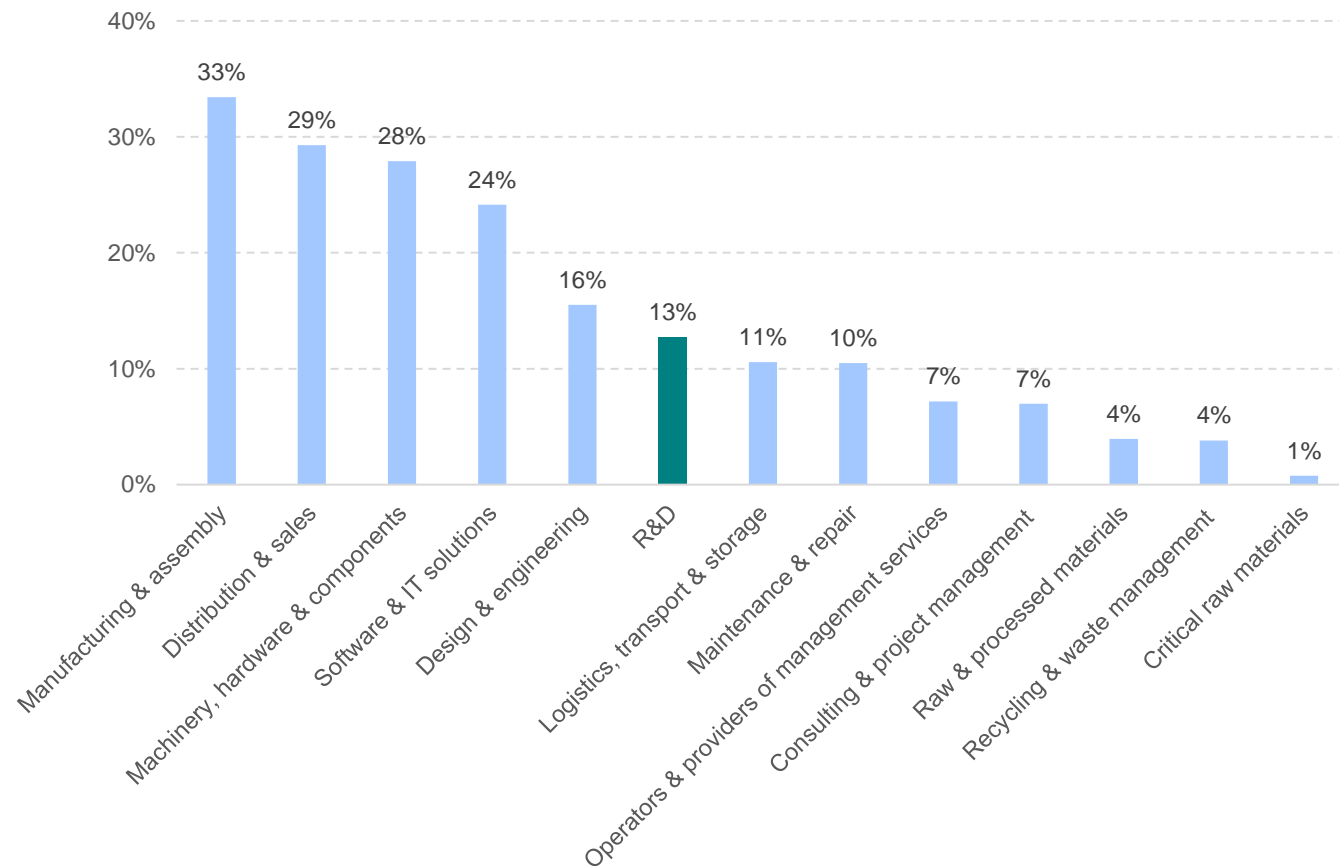
*Industrial connectivity within the ecosystem*

- Consumer Goods/Retail – central driver of technology adoption
- Electronics & Machinery – leading innovation and R&D
- Computer/IT Services – enabler of digital transformation
- Security (incl. Defence) – connector for cross-sector innovation
- Biotech & Pharma, and Renewables - growth sectors with innovation potential

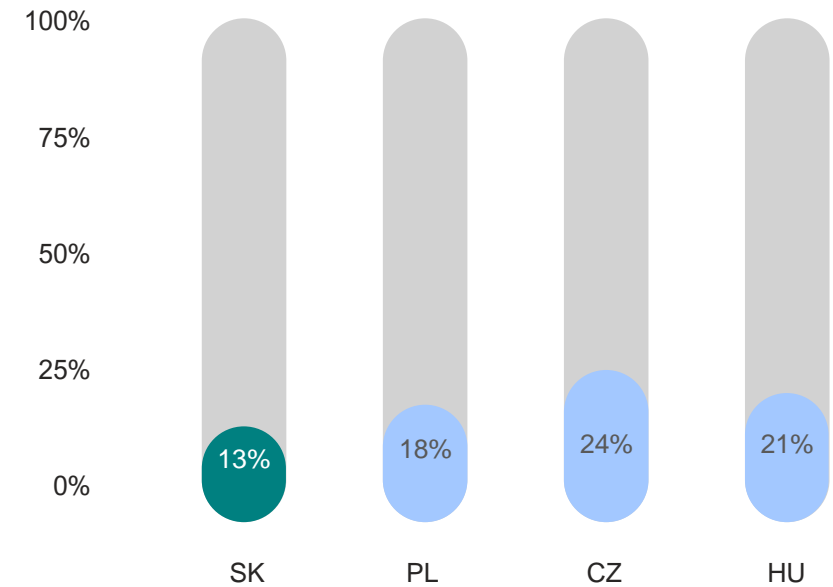


# Value chain positioning

*Enhancing Slovakia's innovation performance through increased R&D participation*

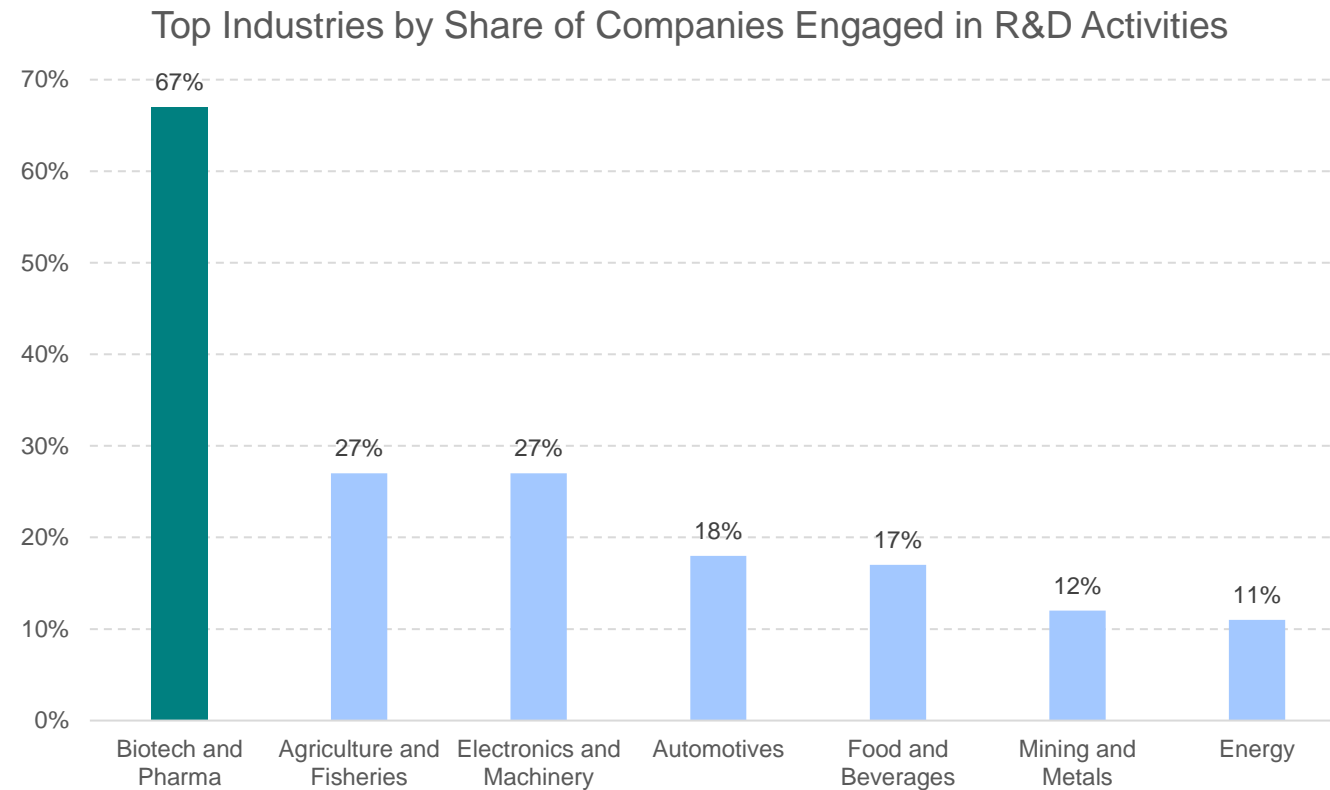


% of Visegrád companies involved in R&D



# Value chain positioning

*Biotech and Pharma is an industry with growth potential and the highest share of involvement in R&D*



# High value-added clusters

*High value-added clusters*

**291**

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Manufacturing and R&D



**185**

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Industrial automation



**64**

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Software developing and R&D

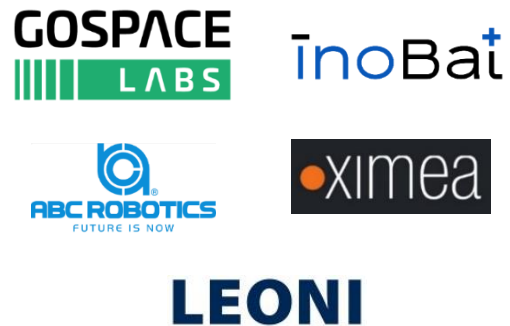


# High value-added clusters

*The main contribution of this report: identifying multifaceted clusters driving automation, digitalisation, and innovation*

## Manufacturing and R&D

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## Industrial automation

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## Software developing and R&D

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# D3: Vertical Pilot

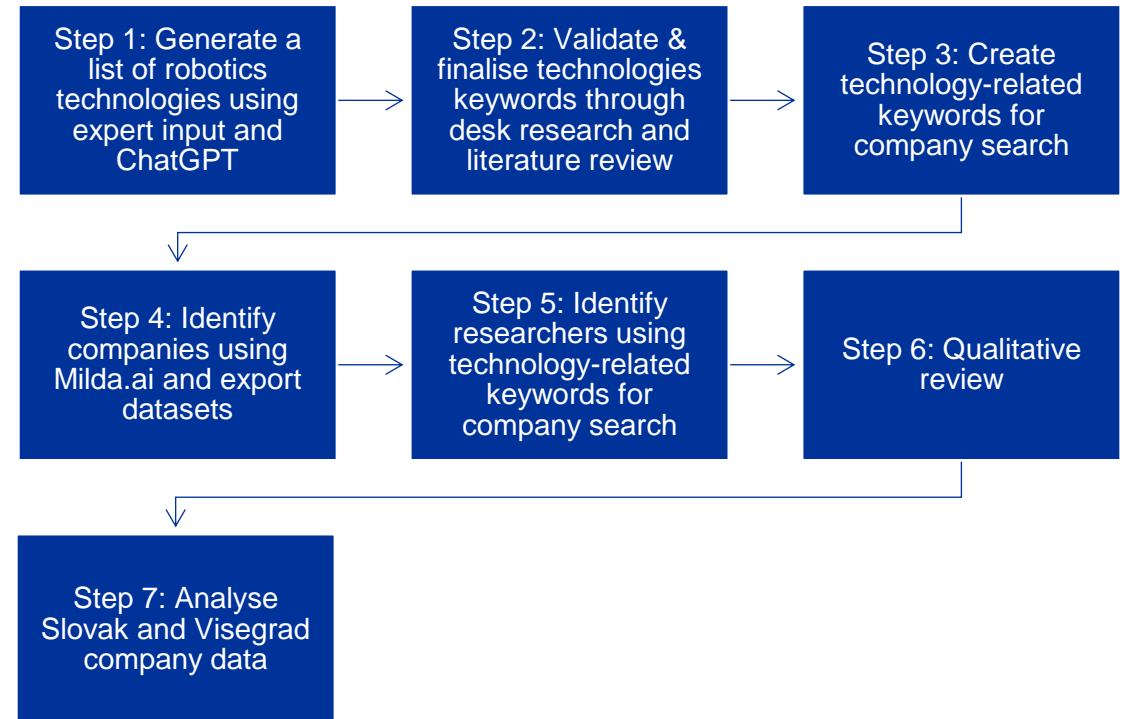
*Vertical industry pilot of robotisation in Slovakia*



# Objective & Methodological Approach

- **Main Objective:** Identify Slovakia's strategic positioning in **preselected cutting-edge robotic technologies**.
- **Data source:** Milda.ai identified 165 Slovak companies using keywords based on expert research and AI input (ChatGPT); 147 researchers were identified using OpenAlex.
- **Analysis:** Companies were assessed by size, age, industry, and operations; researchers were analysed based on their technology-related publication count.

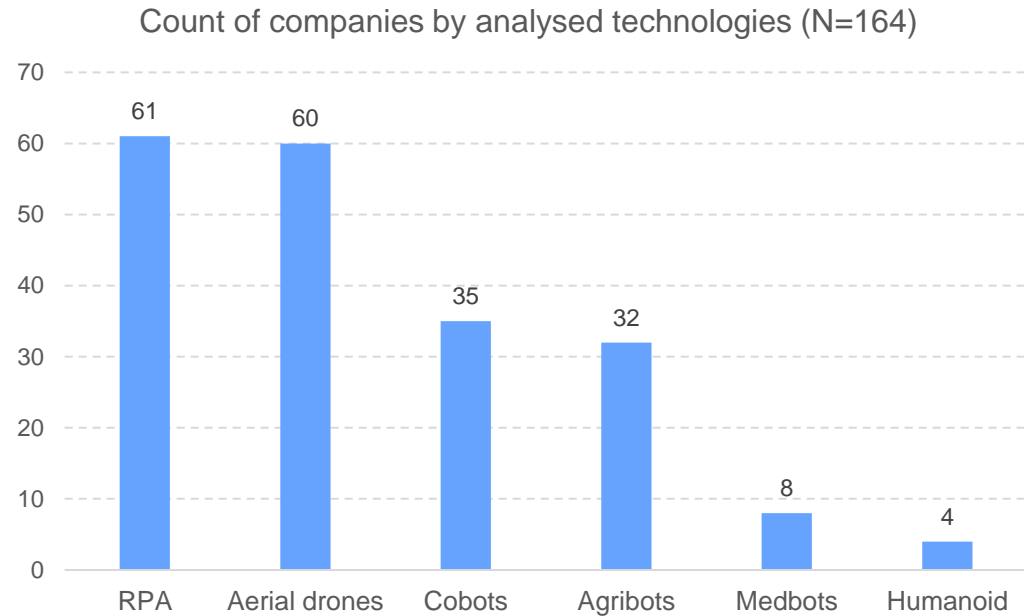
## *Expert-driven approach to industry scoping*





# Overview of identified Slovak companies in robotics

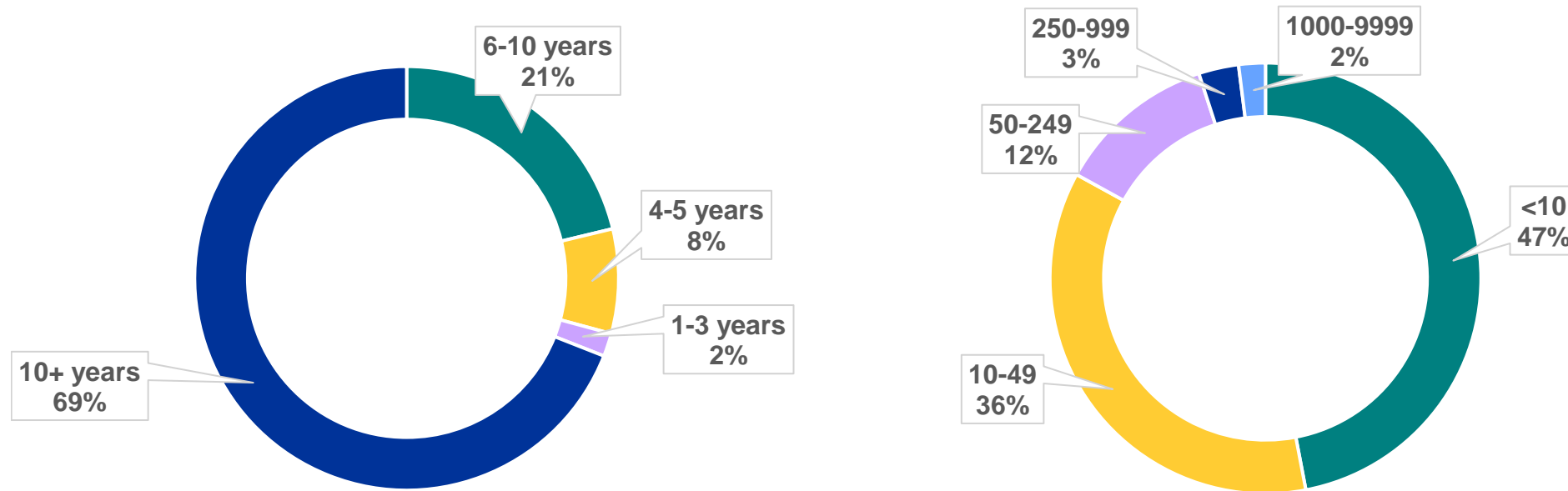
- Robotic Process Automation
- Aerial Drones
- Collaborative Robots
- Agricultural Robots
- Medical Robots
- Humanoid Robots



# The analysed companies are predominantly mature small and medium-sized

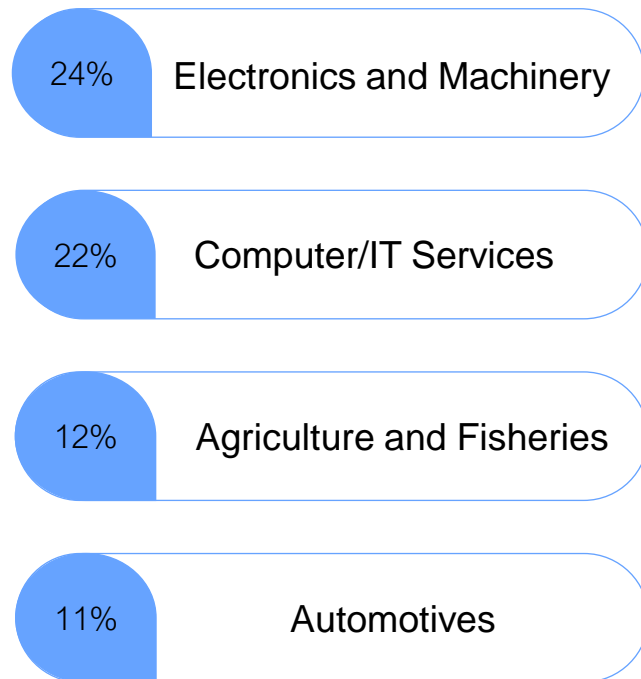
*Established players dominate the market. Potential challenges to scaling up.*

*Analysed companies by age and headcount*

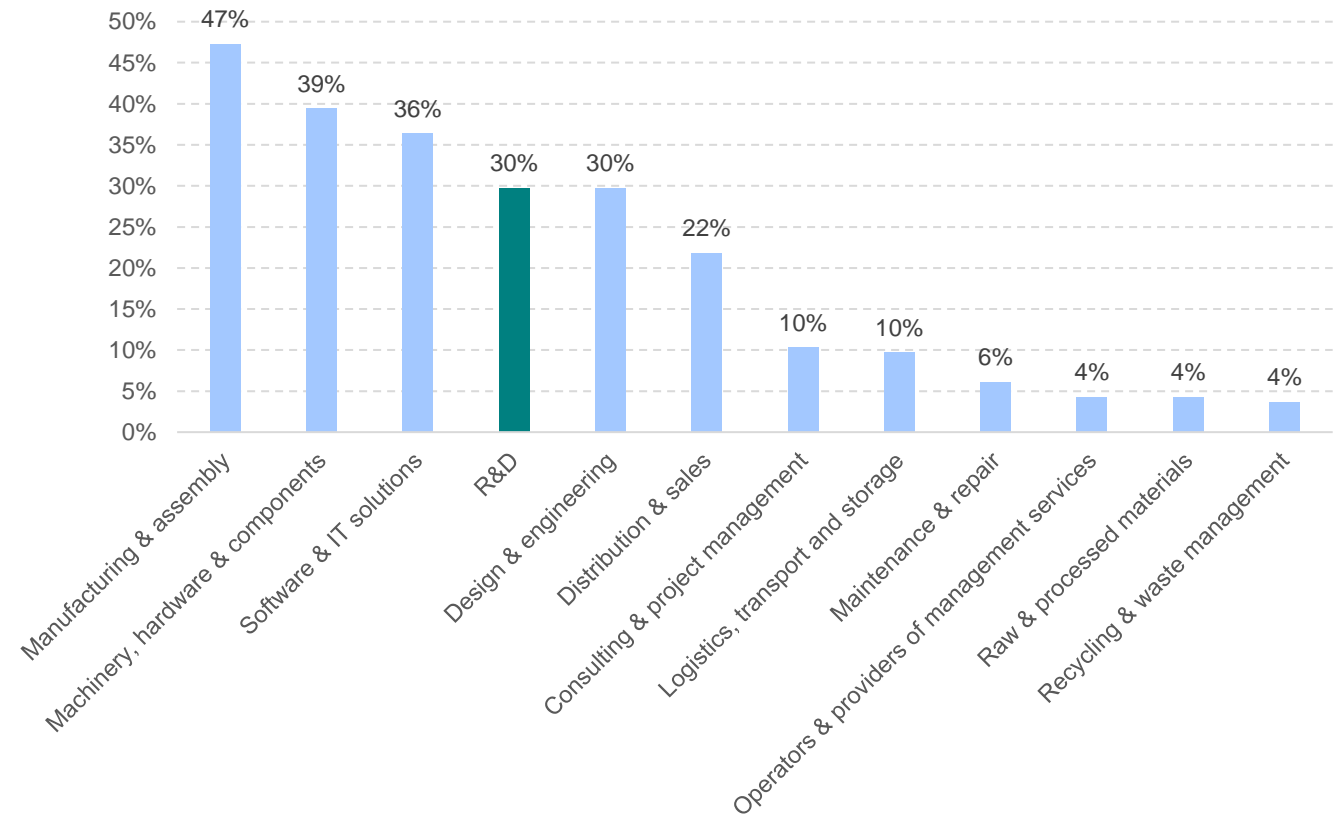


# Value chain positioning

## Key industries



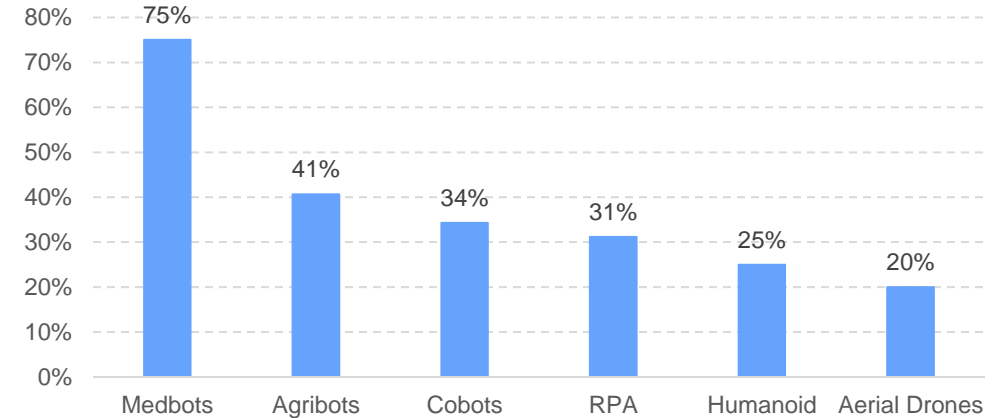
Shares of Slovak companies involved in specific key operational activities



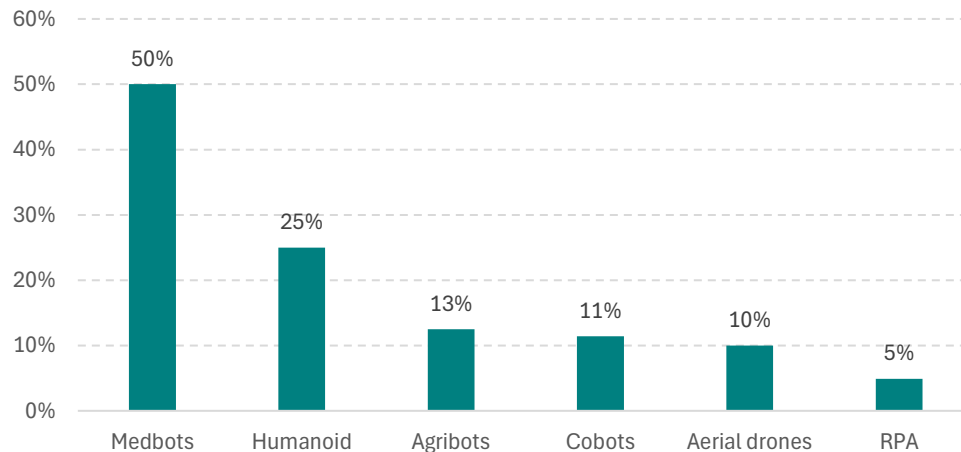
# Overview of the Slovak positioning within the cutting-edge robotics technologies

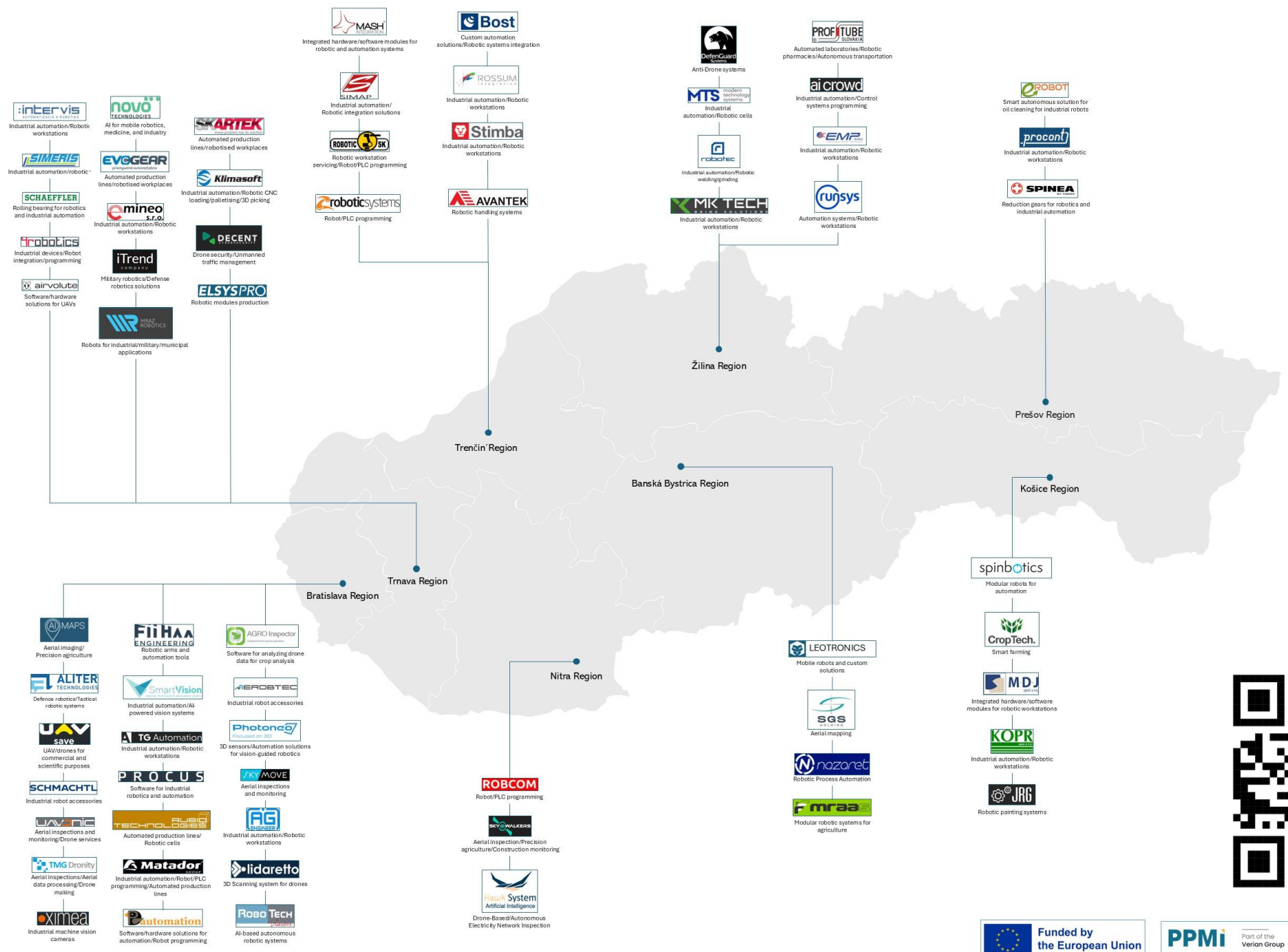
Cutting-edge technology	No of Slovak companies	No of Slovak researchers
Robotic Process Automation	61	14
Aerial Drones	60	67
Collaborative Robots	35	70
Agricultural Robotics	32	7
Medical Robotics	8	25
Humanoid Robotics	4	65

% of companies involved in R&D by robotics technology



% of manufacturers by robotic technology





Coffee break (10:30-10:50)



# Panel Discussion: Is Robotisation a Horizontal Priority for Slovakia?

*Introduction by František Duchoň*



# European Robotics Forum 2025

- robotika v armádnych aplikáciách
- humanoidné roboty (ohrozenie Čínou, 5 % pracovnej sily vo fabrikách, 40 mil. takýchto robotov)
- AI modely využiteľné aj v priemysle
- využitie ROS2 v priemysle





# European Robotics Forum 2025

- vývoj brzdí v EÚ často až nezmyselná byrokratická záťaž a prílišné trvanie na pravidlách (v autobuse Vás ľudia viac postláčajú ako kolaboratívne aplikácie robotov)
- Európa produkuje viac publikácií v robotike ako USA a Čína
- výzvou je však transfer týchto technológií a škálovanie
- keynote speach – prof. Fox (NVIDIA) – RobotGPT, Sim2Real (inflexný bod robotiky)



# European Robotics Forum 2025

- servisná robotika
- povinnosť byť riadené s ľudským supervízorom (mešká legislatíva)
- napr. 4 kosačky s ľudským supervízorom napriek nezaznamenaným kritickým situáciám (opäť brzdíme pokrok skrz legislatívu)
  
- len dvaja slovenskí zástupcovia – TUKE a NCR!



# Conclusions and general Q&A



Thank you for your participation!



# Thank you



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