

# BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE

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## Prof. Hutník's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary

Prof. Ing. Felix Hutník, DrSc., the famous Slovak economist, was born on September 16, 1928 and is going to celebrate his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Prof. Hutník comes from a miner's family and he has liked to study since childhood. In 1947 he graduated from the Business Academy in Banská Bystrica and continued his studies at the Business University in Bratislava. After graduation in 1951 he remained at the University and it did not take him long to take the degree of candidate of economic science. In 1960 Prof. Hutník habilitated to become an associate professor. In 1965 he was appointed a professor. He took the DrSc. degree in 1969.

Prof. Hutník spent most of his productive years at the University of Economics in Bratislava. He was working as the head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, when he retired in 1992. He was head of the department, vice-rector of the University and vice-dean of the faculty several times. In 2005 the University of Economics in Bratislava honoured Prof. Hutník with the title "Professor Emeritus" for his contribution in science, education and development of theoretical knowledge in economics and management of agricultural enterprise. Prof. Hutník is currently a member of the Scientific Board of Business Management Faculty at the University of Economics in Bratislava.

Prof. Hutník did not stop his scientific and managerial activities despite of his retirement. He works at the Institute of Economic Research of SAS, Research Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics in Bratislava. He is a consultant of the international project IDARI for the European Union at the Institute of Prognostication of the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

Since 1967 he has been a member of the Slovak Academy of Agricultural Sciences, where he has consulted the application of scientific research into agricultural practice. He systematically cooperated with many scientific organizations in the agriculture sector and acted as an expert in agricultural policy for the Ministry of Agriculture in the first Czechoslovakian Government. He was the head of the editorial board for economics for the publishing company *Príroda* for a long time. In 1993–1998 he was the chairman of the board of directors of UniCredit Bank.

Very appreciated is his pedagogical work. Prof. Hutník built two key classes for future agricultural economists. From his international studies in Denmark he brought important information about product functions in agricultural economics and developed its application in practice. As an advisor for young scientific workers he brought up tens of postgraduates and students for doctoral degree. As a member of the thesis committee he cooperated with Slovak Agricultural University in Nitra and Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry in Brno.

Important is his contribution to the development of modern agricultural economic science in Slovakia. He creatively developed the problems of agricultural policy and its possibilities in departmental management in the conditions of directive and market economies. His articles were very influential in the formation of modern agricultural and food industry, vertical integration, liberalization of home and international food market or creation of added value in specific parts of the food vertical.

These contributions are a part of his wide publication activities, which include the authorship or co-authorship of fourteen books, one of which was published abroad, and a large number of scientific papers and studies. His most popular scientific works are *Agricultural Policy in the Food Industry* (1970), *Rural Economics* (1995), *Studies of Perspectives of Sustainable Development of Food Industry in the Slovak Republic and European Union* (2002) and many others. In 1998 he became the Personality of the Year, which is the title awarded by the Institute of Economic Research of SAS.

His scientific and publication activities received special acknowledgement by the *Economic Scientific Journal*, where he was a member of the board of editors in the period of 1960 to 1970 and later in 1990 to 2002. He contributed to its transformation according to the interests and problems of market economy. Prof. Hutník was a co-founder and member of the board of editors of an economic journal, *Economics of Food Industry*, which is published by the Research Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics in Bratislava. He was a very creative author and published many studies and articles about economics of agribusiness, its new strategies, sources of economic development, structural and perspective changes in the food industry.

His scientific and pedagogical activities were honoured many times. He received Teacher of the Year 1989 Award, also the Award of ALFA (1980 and 1986) publishing company, Slovak Literature Fund (1986, 1996) and golden medals of the University of Economics in Bratislava and Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra.

Prof. Hutník is celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in good health, vitality and creativity. His friends and co-workers are wishing him many creative years, good health and happiness.

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