

PRESS RELEASE

Eastern Europe's fastest-growing tech companies attract European Venture Capital leaders to Warsaw and Sofia

The first ever Eastern Europe Tech Tour (EETT) will bring focus to the region as one of the most attractive places for risk investments in fast-growing tech companies

Eastern Europe's 50 fastest-growing tech companies are presenting at the first ever [Eastern Europe Tech Tour](#) (EETT) in Warsaw (11-12 of June) and Sofia (12-13 of June) to showcase the region as one of the most attractive places for risk investments in fast growing tech companies.

A dedicated [Selection Committee](#) of experts have chosen the final [30 presenting companies](#), who went through a vigorous application process competing with over 150 applicants for a chance to present to European Venture Capital leaders, local and international funds and policy makers.

The chosen companies have been narrowed down to 15 from Central Eastern Europe, presenting in Warsaw, and 15 from Southern Eastern Europe, presenting in Sofia. An additional 21 companies have also been chosen to participate in shorter format elevator pitches in both cities.

"Leading early stage CEE-focused investors formed the Selection Committee and nominated some of the strongest companies for the Tech Tour. We received many applications, and are happy to confirm that participating companies are a great illustration of the liveliness, sophistication and global ambition of CEE innovation." – Pavel Bogdanov, Co-President of the Eastern Europe Tech Tour.

Of the 30 companies, 30% come from Bulgaria, 27% from Poland, 10% from Ukraine, 7% from Slovenia, 7% are based in the USA, and 7% in the UK but originally hail from Eastern Europe, and 3% each come from the Czech Republic, Romania, Serbia and Switzerland but originally from Eastern Europe.

The main sectors represented are ICT (65%), Cleantech (27%), and Life Sciences (8%).

The leadership of the Forum is driven by known names in the world of Venture Capital and Private Equity. They represent top investors from different backgrounds and sustained experience in the region.

- **Alexander Galitsky, Co-President of the Eastern Europe Tech Tour**

Galitsky is a Managing Partner at Almaz Capital Partners, an international venture fund with its head office in Portola Valley, CA, which invests in early stage deep tech companies. Alexander is a well-known innovator, entrepreneur and investor in the USA and Europe.

- **Pavel Bogdanov, Co-President of the Eastern Europe Tech Tour**
Bogdanov is a General Partner at Almaz Capital Partners. Currently on the boards of Alawar Entertainment, AlterGeo, Flirtic and Nival. Previously, he led deal execution for Jelastic, Parallels, Acumatica, Alawar, and other Almaz companies. He was a partner at Russian Technologies (RT), an early stage venture capital fund in Moscow.
- **Marcin Hejka, Head of Tech Tour's [Selection Committee](#) for Central Eastern Europe**
Hejka is a Co-Founder and General Partner at OTB Ventures. In the past he has worked at Intel Capital, first as Investment Director responsible for CEE investments and then as Vice-President and Managing Director for EMEA. Marcin has been the Vice-Chairman of the Polish PE and VC Association.
- **Evgeny Angelov, Head of Tech Tour's [Selection Committee](#) for Southern Eastern Europe**
Angelov is Chairman of the Bulgarian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association and a Partner at PostScriptum Ventures. Previously, he was an Economic Advisor to the President of Bulgaria and the Deputy Minister of Economy.

EETT 2018 is organised by [Tech Tour](#), with support from the international venture fund [Almaz Capital](#), the [Bulgarian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association \(BVBA\)](#) and the social and economic development think tank [Emerging Europe](#). See more about the organisers below.

Notes to editors

All media representatives can attend the event free of charge. For registration via email, please contact hristov@techtour.com or Irina@almazcapital.com up to 11 June 2018 for Warsaw and up to 12 June for Sofia.

About Tech Tour

Founded in 1998, [Tech Tour](#) is a community for entrepreneurs and investors with strong positions in the venture capital market. We promote innovative companies and their projects through our online community platform and in person at our 25 networking events each year. We have 20-years of experience across Europe and the Middle East. Tech Tour presents a unique cross-border platform for growing and emerging innovative tech companies on their way to investment and funding – from the idea to the success story. For more information please see: www.techtour.com

About Almaz Capital

[Almaz Capital](#) is an international Venture Capital firm investing in early stage, capital efficient technology companies. Being a unique bridge-model investment fund with its head office in Silicon Valley, US, Almaz Capital connects entrepreneurs and engineering talent in USA and Eastern European/CIS countries. The fund invests in high-growth sectors such as artificial intelligence and blockchain applications, data engineering, cybersecurity, industrial IoT, networking architecture and infrastructure.

The fund's investors include Cisco, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group. Founded in 2008, Almaz Capital has 8 exits and over 25 portfolio companies. For more information, please visit: www.almazcapital.com

About the Bulgarian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (BVBA)

The Bulgarian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association is a focal point of private investors, venture capital funds and the entrepreneurial community in Bulgaria. BVCA works alongside its members to improve the business environment and to drive innovation and growth in the country and the CEE region. The Association is committed to popularising the role of private investment as a reliable and sustainable source of funding for growing and established companies. For more information, please visit: <http://bvca.bg/en/>

About Emerging Europe (EE)

Emerging Europe is a London-based think tank committed to boosting the social and economic development of Central and Eastern Europe as well as raising awareness about the region. EE provides credible, impartial information and educational resources, leveraging advocacy where it is appropriate and signalling calls to action for engagement and collaboration. For more information, please visit: www.emerging-europe.com

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