

PRESS KIT

Tomáš Sedláček

Economist, philosopher and founder of Spirit Academy

About Tomáš Sedláček

Tomáš Sedláček gained international recognition with his bestselling book Economics of Good and Evil: The Quest for Economic Meaning from Gilgamesh to Wall Street (Oxford University Press, 2011). Translated into 22 languages, the book received the German Wirtschaftsbuchpreis award for its original approach to economics. The Swiss-based Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute (GDI) named him among the world's 100 most influential thought leaders.



For sixteen years, he served as Chief Macroeconomic Strategist at ČSOB, one of the Czech Republic's largest banks, and was a member of the Czech Government's National Economic Council (NERV) for more than a decade. He taught at Metropolitan University Prague for many years and has spoken at international conferences, including the World Economic Forum in Davos. He also contributed to the European initiative A New Narrative for Europe, associated with then-President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso. From 2025 to 2026, he served as Director of the Václav Havel Library.

In his current work, Sedláček brings together economics, philosophy, theology, culture, and artificial intelligence. He explores how technology is reshaping our understanding of humanity, values, and meaning, asking what remains uniquely human in a world where intelligence is becoming abundant. He is the founder of Spirit Academy, an educational platform dedicated to exploring new connections between body, soul, and spirit.

Keynote Speaking Topics

01 Spirit of Europe: A Solution for the World?

What can Europe offer a world searching for a new direction? Does its strength lie in economic power, technology, and political influence, or in something less measurable – its culture, values, and ability to live with difference?

Drawing on economics, philosophy, and history, Tomáš Sedláček explores the meaning of European identity. He asks whether Europe's experience with democracy, freedom, and the balance between individual and collective interests can offer a meaningful contribution to a world undergoing profound change.

02 Competing Through Meaning: A New Competitive Advantage

What determines business success in a world where technologies, products, and expertise are becoming increasingly accessible?

Tomáš Sedláček explores meaning as a potential source of lasting competitive advantage. Bringing together economics, philosophy, and business strategy, he examines how values, trust, and a sense of purpose shape decisions, motivation, and organizational resilience. The keynote challenges a familiar assumption: perhaps the future of competitiveness depends not only on what companies produce or how efficiently they operate, but also on why they exist.

03 After Intelligence: The Future of HR in the Age of AI

What remains uniquely human in a world where intelligence is becoming abundant?

Artificial intelligence is transforming not only how we work, but also how we understand human abilities, value, and purpose. Drawing on economics, philosophy, and technology, Tomáš Sedláček explores the questions that will shape the future of human resources, leadership, learning, and organizational culture. If intelligence is no longer scarce, which human qualities will become more valuable? And how must organizations rethink their approach to people in an age of increasingly capable machines?

Keynote Speaking Topics

04 Two Megatrends: From the Big Bang to the Future of Economics

How did we get from the Big Bang to the prosperity of the modern world? Is economic growth an invention of capitalism, or part of a much older process shaping life and civilization?

Tomáš Sedláček takes an unconventional journey through the history of wealth, from the origins of the universe to the emergence of an increasingly intangible economy. Connecting economics, philosophy, and history, he explores the long-term trends behind the prosperity of nations. What roles do values, knowledge, and meaning play in the creation of wealth? And what can the distant past reveal about our economic future?

05 The World and Europe in Numbers

Where does Europe really stand in a changing world? And how closely do our perceptions of the global economy match what the data actually show?

Tomáš Sedláček examines the world economy through key figures, long-term trends, and international comparisons. He explores Europe's position amid global economic and demographic shifts, showing how numbers can challenge familiar assumptions. Connecting economic data with broader questions of prosperity, competitiveness, and social development, the keynote offers a perspective on the forces shaping Europe's future.

06 Leadership in a Disrupted World

How do we lead people and organizations when familiar certainties are rapidly disappearing?

Technological change, geopolitical tensions, and economic uncertainty are placing new demands on leaders. Drawing on economics, philosophy, and history, Tomáš Sedláček examines what responsible leadership means in times of profound disruption. He explores the role of values, trust, judgment, and the ability to make decisions without clear answers. The keynote raises a fundamental question: will the most important quality of tomorrow's leaders be their ability to provide direction and meaning rather than simply exercise control?

MEDIA & EVENT ENQUIRIES

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