

HEALTHY FUTURE OF SLOVAKIA BY FUTURE SLOVAKIA FORUM · PRESS RELEASE

# Health Does Not Begin in a Hospital: HFS Welcomes the Slovakia 2040 Vision and Offers Expert Input for Its Implementation

*The Vision links health with prevention, accessible care, the health workforce, high-quality data and stable financing. HFS brings experience from developing the system-wide REFORMA 3.3 framework.*

BRATISLAVA, 4 September 2026 – Healthy Future of Slovakia (HFS), an expert initiative of the Future Slovakia Forum think tank, welcomes the Slovakia 2040 Vision: A Path to a Better Quality of Life as an important cross-sectoral framework for the country's long-term direction. The document was developed by the Slovak Academy of Sciences in cooperation with the Slovak Rectors' Conference and presented to the public on 1 September 2026.

HFS welcomes the Vision's recognition that health is not merely an output of the healthcare system. It is shaped by prevention, nutrition, physical activity, the environment, housing, social conditions, mental health and access to long-term care. For people, this means a clear and coordinated pathway through the system, without having to carry information between institutions or search for who is responsible for the next step. Reducing health inequalities between regions and population groups is equally important.

## Moving from vision to implementation will be decisive

The Vision sets out the desired future and its guiding principles. The follow-up Slovakia 2040 Strategy is expected to establish the order of priorities, specific measures, responsible actors and financing. According to the timetable published by the Slovak Academy of Sciences, it is to be completed by 31 January 2027 and submitted to the Government for consideration by 31 March 2027. HFS is ready to contribute proposals on sequencing, a clear allocation of responsibilities, outcome measurement and the safe implementation of change.

The HFS expert group considers it essential to strengthen prevention, outpatient and long-term care, coordinate the patient pathway, and link additional resources to better access, quality and health outcomes. The REFORMA 3.3 framework can contribute concrete proposals to the forthcoming Strategy on how to turn this direction into practice.

## Where HFS sees common ground with the Vision

- strong public health, prevention and accessible outpatient care;
- a coordinated patient pathway and integration of outpatient, hospital, home-based, post-acute, rehabilitation and long-term care, including palliative, hospice and social support;
- a sufficient health workforce, regional capacity planning and the safe expansion of team-based roles and competencies;
- interoperable health data, a functioning digital health system and the use of artificial intelligence under human oversight;
- stable and predictable financing, protection of households from financial barriers, and linking additional resources to access, quality and health outcomes.

## What HFS can contribute to the Slovakia 2040 Strategy

HFS is developing REFORMA 3.3, a system-wide expert framework covering six interconnected areas: outpatient care, long-term care, pharmaceutical policy, digitalisation, financing and the hospital network. The health workforce, prevention and outcome measurement are cross-cutting themes.

In developing the Strategy, HFS can contribute proposals on the sequencing of steps, a clear allocation of responsibilities, measurable indicators, real-world testing of solutions and a multiannual financing framework. This is expert input for further assessment, not a final budget commitment or the only possible model.

HFS is ready to engage with the team preparing the Strategy and, subject to internal approval, share selected expert materials.

## Future Slovakia Forum's broader reform agenda

Future Slovakia Forum operates as a T-shaped think tank: it builds deep expertise in selected sectors and connects it through shared capabilities in public finance, human capacity, data, regional development, governance and implementation. Alongside its advanced work on the REFORMA 3.3 framework, it is finalising the preparatory phase of its Education and Science reform and, in cooperation with partners, preparing a reform of public administration, including the completion of decentralisation. This broader perspective can add substantial value to the development of strategies in the key areas required to deliver the Slovakia 2040 Vision.

HFS does not claim that the Slovak Academy of Sciences has endorsed the REFORMA 3.3 expert framework or any of its specific parameters. This is strategic alignment in the overall direction and an offer of expert implementation input.

## About the Slovakia 2040 Vision

The Slovakia 2040 Vision was initiated by a resolution of the Government of the Slovak Republic and developed by the Slovak Academy of Sciences in cooperation with the Slovak Rectors' Conference. The Academy describes it as an independent, non-partisan and cross-sectoral document. The Academy publishes the full text and four official annexes.

Official text and annexes: [Slovak Academy of Sciences – Slovakia 2040 Vision](#)

## About Healthy Future of Slovakia and Future Slovakia Forum

Healthy Future of Slovakia is an [expert healthcare initiative](#) of the Future Slovakia Forum think tank. HFS is developing REFORMA 3.3, a system-wide expert framework for Slovak healthcare; the framework is being reviewed by the international [REFORMA 3.3 Advisory Board](#). REFORMA 3.3 is neither a government programme nor a party-political platform.

Media contact: Dávid Bořuta, Director, Future Slovakia Forum · [media@future-slovakia.eu](mailto:media@future-slovakia.eu) · +421 911 802 407 · [www.future-slovakia.eu](http://www.future-slovakia.eu)

END OF PRESS RELEASE

