

## An international startup ecosystem is developed in Poland

The 5th edition of one of the largest startup conferences in the CEE region has come to an end. **Wolves Summit**, which took place in Warsaw's Palace of Culture and Science on 28-29th March 2017, gathered 1920 business and tech representatives from 51 countries around the world.

### Record number of startups

The Palace of Culture and Science in Warsaw, Poland hosted Wolves Summit for the 4th time. The conference is dedicated to startups, investors, corporations and experts. This international event gathered 1920 people from 51 countries, that participated in 3472 1:1 meetings. Attendees included 370 startups, that could join for free, 217 investors and 385 C-level executives.

– *Changing the event's formula and inviting chosen 370 startups to participate free of charge resulted in even more precise matching of tech projects with corporations and funds. It's the next step in supporting business networking at Wolves Summit* – **Piotr Piasek**, co-founder of **Wolves Summit**, explains.

### Networking and business

1:1 meetings is just one of many networking activities offered by Wolves Summit.

– *Before each conference we set the bar high, so we place emphasis on the quality of meetings. The 1:1 formula works well and participants can meet more relevant and valuable people in a short time* – **Piotr Piasek** says. 15-minute conversations can be planned in a calendar before the conference thanks to a unique matchmaking tool. Apart from meetings there were natural networking areas available, as well as the Wolves Summit app that made communicating with participants easier and two evening networking parties.

– *All that to successfully connect business with technology. We believe contacts are crucial in business, so the most emphasis is put on helping attendees link them to the right people* – **Piasek** adds.

### The Great Pitch

42 companies fought for prizes in the Great Pitch, a competition for startups. Their task was to convince a circle of investors and managers to their project in just 3 minutes. The winner of the main prize – investment from TURN8, a Dubai-based fund – was an Austrian startup **The Social Bet**. PR Newswire sponsored a media package, which was given to **Doctrina** from Slovenia. All companies were evaluated by the jury in terms of business model, scalability or team's competences.

– *Startups presented in front of managers and funds that match their industry, so they could establish contact with those actually important when it comes to business development* – **Piasek** states.

### International environment

Wolves Summit welcomed people from over 50 countries from around the world, including Israel, Germany, United States, Finland or Brazil. The internationality has been key from the very beginning. **Piotr Piasek** explains about 70% of the 370 startups come from outside of Poland. This means participants see potential in the country when it comes to investors or corporations they can establish long-term relations and get funding. The upcoming 6th edition will continue to strongly support networking activities. All information regarding the next event can be found on social media channels and website [www.wolvessummit.com](http://www.wolvessummit.com).