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## Obituary for Professor Jiří Šnajdauf

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of Professor Jiří Šnajdauf, an outstanding physician, pediatric surgeon, teacher, and mentor who profoundly shaped Czech and Czechoslovak pediatric surgery.

At this time of loss, we stand in heartfelt solidarity with our Czech colleagues and share in their grief.

Professor Šnajdauf served for many years as Head of the Department of Pediatric Surgery at the Second Faculty of Medicine, Charles University, and Motol University Hospital. He also held senior academic leadership roles—including as a long-time leader of Czech pediatric surgery—and served as President of the Czech Association of Pediatric Surgeons.

A leading expert in hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery, he was among the first to publish on duodenum-sparing pancreatic head resection in children and introduced important innovations to established pediatric surgical techniques, significantly improving patient safety. Early in his career, he established a neonatal surgical intensive care unit that contributed to a substantial reduction in newborn mortality from congenital defects in the Czech Republic.

Professor Šnajdauf was respected at both the European and global levels within the pediatric surgical community. His contributions helped align Czech pediatric surgical practice with European standards, and he maintained close professional engagement with the European Paediatric Surgeons' Association (EUPSA) and other international forums for pediatric surgery.

In recognition of his exceptional lifelong contribution to the field, his work was honoured with prestigious distinctions, including international recognition from the World Federation of Associations of Pediatric Surgeons (WOFAPS). He was the author of numerous professional publications and a devoted mentor to generations of surgeons.

Professor Jiří Šnajdauf will be remembered with deep respect and gratitude. His legacy will endure.

**Professor Udo Rolle**

President

Frankfurt, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Goethestrasse, 61 – 9008 ST.GALLEN CH

VAT Number: CHE-417.889.301

[office@eupsa.info](mailto:office@eupsa.info) – [www.eupsa.info](http://www.eupsa.info)