**JOSEF STŘEDULA**

Josef Středula (born November 12, 1967, in Opava) is a prominent Czech trade unionist, currently serving as the president of the Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions (ČMKOS) since April 2014, and as the vice-president of the European Trade Union Confederation since May 2019, focusing on Central and Eastern Europe.

After graduating from the Secondary Industrial School of Mechanical Engineering in Opava, Středula began his career working in maintenance at the Vítkovice steel plant before becoming involved in the trade union movement following the Velvet Revolution. He contributed to the transformation of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement (ROH) into standard trade unions. Středula held various roles within the KOVO Trade Union, including vice-president, before becoming its president from 2005 to 2014.

The Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions (ČMKOS) is the largest trade union organization in the Czech Republic, representing a diverse range of professions and sectors. Established in 1990, ČMKOS has been actively advocating for workers' rights, fair wages, and improved working conditions. It plays a significant role in collective bargaining, social dialogue, and shaping labor policies.

As a national organization, ČMKOS cooperates with international labor organizations, including the European Trade Union Confederation and the International Trade Union Confederation, to promote a fair and just labor market for workers in the Czech Republic and beyond.