



## No country for old men

A common view among political analysts is that the Czech presidential campaign is just a big show with little practical importance, because lawmakers are oblivious to it and will cast their votes according to their own secret agenda. It's probably true that the campaign will have little impact on the outcome of the election itself, unless someone discovers a way to stop the Klaus perpetomobile. But Jan Švejnar's campaign has been stronger than expected, creating the hope among some disillusioned voters (and analysts) that the momentum for change that Švejnar is creating will continue after the presidential election. Even if Švejnar doesn't create a new political party, or even if he packs up and leaves on Feb. 9, he has nevertheless sent the message that this is no country for old men (to quote an excellent new film) and that it's time, with or without his help, to start looking at things from a new angle.



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