


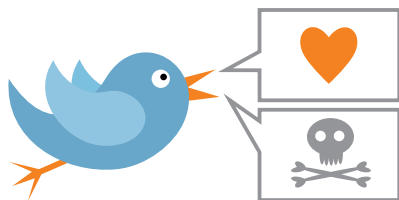
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Zeman's last man standing



One by one, Miloš Zeman's army of experts, mercenaries and bootlickers have fallen like tin soldiers. Either they've been written off by voters, by Zeman himself, or by both. The most visible recent casualty was Interior Minister Martin Pecina, who received a public dressing-down from Zeman for trying to reappoint Petr Lessy as police president. Even PM Jiří Rusnok is now damaged goods, having been caught on a live mic saying he dreads the idea of attending Nelson Mandela's funeral. Aside from the three outgoing ministers who received praise from Zeman last night on [Czech Radio](#) (Miroslav Toman, Jiří Cienciala, František Lukl), almost the only ally that Zeman can still rely on is Hynek Kmoníček, who heads his foreign department. He's willing to take a bullet for the president. At this point, it would almost be an act of compassion if the budding coalition agreed to yield the foreign-minister post to him.

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