

Babiš and the cult of personality



Miroslav Kalousek is losing his one-man crusade to taint the ground that Andrej Babiš hovers over by calling him all kinds of names, from secret-police snitch to god-father and supplicant all in one. The more Kalousek rants and raves, the higher Babiš's approval rating soars, while Kalousek's remains deep in the doldrums. Kalousek is unwittingly helping Babiš to build a cult of personality even stronger than Václav Klaus's in the early days. It's no longer just awe that is hoisting Babiš up; it's fear too. He's making the political decisions and is also master of the media. What can Kalousek possibly do? Perhaps he could appeal to the ironic side of his countrymen, to the side that voted Jára Cimrman as the greatest Czech of all time. In areas where TOP 09 is still in power, it could erect Kim-like monuments to Babiš. If Babiš were overlooking Prague from [Stalin's old pedestal](#), Czechs would start to get the message.

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