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Amazon's unsafe Czech haven



Bohuslav Sobotka [bent over backward](#) to lure in Amazon. Once the deed was done, Amazon settled into a Prague office complex built, as it happens, with proceeds from Sobotka's sleight-of-hand privatization of MUS coal company. At the office-warming party, Sobotka said that the CR is a [safe haven for foreign investors](#). What he meant isn't clear, but for Amazon it meant shelter from pesky German labor unions and the ability to continue booking sales to the CR through Luxembourg ([unlike in Germany](#), where public pressure put an end to this). While Sobotka was bending over backwards for Amazon, he couldn't have known that his benefactors from PPF and J&T were planning to join up with Mall.cz to take on Amazon. Jeff Bezos might be one of the world's richest men, but he will soon find out what it's like for an established multinational to confront the all-powerful oligarchs who own the CR. So much for "safe haven."

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