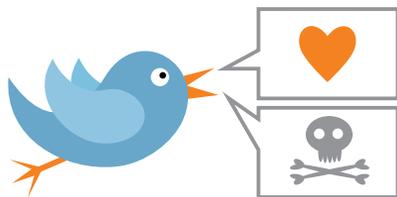


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Babiš gets a taste of his own democracy

Henry Ford famously said that customers can have a Model T in any color, as long as it's black. Andrej Babiš looks at democracy in the same way. Members of ANO can do whatever they want, as long as it's what he wants. Trouble is that more and more of them prefer a car of another color. This applies esp. to Radmila Kleslová, who has turned the tables on her erstwhile handler and democratized ANO in Prague in much the way that Babiš did on the national level. She has the votes to do things her way, and there's not much Babiš can do to oppose her without looking like a tyrant. This is where business butts heads sharply with politics. When you buy or steal a company, you own it. It's in the commercial registry and remains there unless a bigger buyer or thief comes along. When you found a democratic political party, you become one of many, and sometimes someone else buys or steals little parts of it out from under you.

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