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The deals that Sobotka didn't seal in China



After Andrej Babiš read our Final Word last week about [Angela Merkel](#) declaring her support for Market Economy Status for China, he stated unequivocally on [Twitter](#) that he opposes awarding Beijing the status. This would threaten the three steelmakers in the Ostrava region, he said. A whimpering Bohuslav Sobotka then said from China that the CR will act in conjunction with the other EU members in terms of Market Economy Status, which is akin to supporting both Leave and Remain in the Brexit vote. Sobotka's noncommittal response must have sorely disappointed his Chinese hosts. Sobotka added to their chagrin by [dropping plans to sign a memorandum](#) between ČSSD and the Chinese Communist Party. (Click [here](#) for the draft document, and note the planned signing date of June 16.) The Chinese know what they want and go after it with a vengeance. They have now seen first-hand what a wishy-washy Czech politician looks like.

Read this later today in [Czech](#)



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