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The reverse Lány putsch



Bohuslav Sobotka said in [HN yesterday](#) that if ČSSD has enough support from the voters, he will seek reelection next spring as party chairman and will want to lead the Social Democrats into the 2017 parliamentary elections. If Parlamentní listy had interpreted this to mean that Sobotka will step down as chairman if ČSSD doesn't win the regional and Senate elections, it would have been written off as pro-Zeman propaganda.

Instead, it was HN itself that distorted Sobotka's words (at least based on the [written text](#)). Sobotka [subsequently denied](#) that he plans to resign if ČSSD doesn't win this fall, but the damage was done. Miloš Zeman has been trying for months to instill the belief that Sobotka should step aside if this fall's elections go badly for ČSSD (remember the [Kalashnikov](#) comment?), and now HN has done it for him. Who would ever expect Zdeněk Bakala's ČSSD-friendly publishing house of conducting a reverse Lány putsch?

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