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ČSSD needs 56% Zeman



Can the chairman of a 19% center-left party afford to turn his back on a 56% center-left president? Not if the 19% party wants to win the elections. Bohuslav Sobotka is trying to be more resolute and forceful, but he can't make up his mind about whether to support Miloš Zeman for reelection. By toying with the idea of including Zeman in his party's internal referendum, Sobotka risks making the same mistake as the Kroměříž Appeal. It released a list of 25 possible candidates in order of preference, thereby alienating almost all of them. Successful politicians are vain people who want to be singled out as being exceptional. If Sobotka tries to lump Zeman in with a ragtag group of wannabes, Zeman's first instinct will be to give Sobotka the finger and to forbid him from including him in the referendum. Sobotka's only move at this point is to declare by acclamation at the March congress that, despite a few reservations, 56% Zeman is the candidate of 30% ČSSD.

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