

ANO's four-year power play

Nothing in recent Czech politics and high-level business can compare in importance to the [Kantar TNS poll](#) that sealed the political fate of Bohuslav Sobotka, but the June [STEM poll](#) comes close.

There's nothing groundbreaking about the poll rating for ANO (32.8%), or even for ČSSD (11.4%). We've seen such figures before from other agencies. Nor is it so shocking that the combined figure for KDU-ČSL (7.4%) and STAN (0.9%) falls short of the 10% threshold for the two parties to make it into Parliament as an official coalition. More important is how close ANO comes to being able to form a one-party majority government if either KDU/STAN or TOP 09 (with 5.5% in the STEM poll) is left at the altar. If they both missed the hurdle, a four-year ANO power play would be a near certainty. Even if this didn't happen, ANO could still form a two-party coalition (or minority government) with any other single party in Parliament except TOP 09. To borrow from Miroslav Kalousek, the competition to "kiss oligarchal ass" and form a government with Andrej Babiš would be unprecedented.

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