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## How Blesk helped sink the Pirates' ship



News reports yesterday and today give the impression that the Pirates blame their humiliation in the parliamentary elections, in which they lost 18 of their 22 seats, only on the "circling" campaign of the STAN mayors' group. In their "[Analysis of the breaches of the contractual arrangements](#)" with STAN, the Pirates demonstrate how their partner provided instructions to its voters on electoral leapfrogging. Yet both [Ivan Bartoš](#) and [Jakub Michálek](#) of the Pirates have also publicly blamed Blesk tabloid for their woes. One week before the elections, on Oct. 1, Blesk provided a "[model example](#)" of how four STAN candidates can be given preference over 14 Pirates. [Three of the four STAN candidates](#) were ultimately elected, to only [two of the 14 Pirates](#). And that was just in Prague. Blesk's instructions had a wider reach than any independent activities of individual STAN candidates. Blesk owner Daniel Křetínský probably thinks he should get one of STAN's ministries as recompense.

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