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President caught in Communist trap



Lawyer Jan Kysela, who heads Pres. Petr Pavel's [advisory panel](#) for nominating justices to the Constitutional Court, told Právo that the panel is in agreement with the Senate that no more "pre-November" Communists should be nominated to the Court. Kysela included in this category, according to Právo, both ex-Communist Robert Fremr, who was confirmed yesterday, and Josef Baxa, who was appointed on June 5 and was a candidate for KSČ membership. If Pavel wanted to extend this new freeze on Communists to the appointment of the [new chief justice tomorrow](#), he would either need to choose a recently appointed justice with little or no experience on a top-level court, new [Justice Daniela Zemanová](#), or a justice whose term is expiring in the next two years. Kysela has already said that [no current justices will be nominated again](#) to the Court, but if Pavel truly wants a break from his own KSČ past, he'll appoint a non-Communist tomorrow and keep that person on the Court for the next 10 years.

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