

## First arrest in ODS's bitcoin scandal

The dramatic arrest late Thur. night of Tomáš Jiříkovský in the bitcoin affair is what everyone in Czech politics was either waiting for or dreading. The top brass of ODS was no doubt counting on [Supreme State Prosecutor Lenka Bradáčová](#) to postpone the day of reckoning until at least after the elections, but Olomouc Senior Prosecutor Radim Dragoun has his own agenda and struck at almost the worst possible time for ODS. The floodgates have now been opened, and if no one else is arrested before the elections, it will raise legitimate questions about the fairness of the process. MP Marek Benda of ODS has already forfeited his right to object to anything that comes. When [Martin Řezníček of Czech TV](#) accused ANO Vice Chair Radek Vondráček 12 days ago of criticizing the police, Benda chimed in (at [10:22pm](#)) that questioning the judicial system is ANO's favorite trick. "Let's not do that," Benda said. "We simply must maintain that law enforcement and courts in this country are independent." If the police now come for Finance Min. Zbyněk Stanjura, Benda will have trouble arguing that someone wants to ruin ODS before the elections.

Read this later today in [Czech](#)



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