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Fiala and Rakušan walk into a bar...



There are scores of [corny jokes](#) in English of the kind, "Two guys walked into a bar. The third guy ducked." After the [meeting yesterday](#) at Malostranská beseda in Prague between STAN Chair Vít Rakušan and PM Petr Fiala to affirm their refusal to work after the elections with ANO, the joke could be, "Fiala and Rakušan walked into a bar. They agreed to have Vladimir Putin pay for their beers." The argument against Babiš continues to be that he will take the country toward [Hungary and Slovakia](#) and is eager to tighten the screws in the CR too. "Will we [stay in the West](#), or head back to the East?" asks Spolu. The coalition parties adamantly refuse to entertain any kind of post-election collaboration with Babiš, yet they don't have the [poll numbers](#) to justify their self-confidence. This merely increases the fears among many voters that Fiala and Rakušan know something about the future outcome of the vote that no else knows. If they don't plan to rig the elections, they shouldn't give the impression they do.

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