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Rychetský's choice for PM



Ex-Constitutional Court Chief Justice Pavel Rychetský, a long-time confidant of ex-Pres. Miloš Zeman until they had a falling-out in Zeman's second term, is now sending words of advice to Zeman's successor, Petr Pavel. Rychetský's main line of reasoning, as expounded yesterday on Czech TV, is that Pavel is the king of the hill until he appoints the PM, after which the president must accept the PM's nominees for the cabinet. Rychetský said that if he were the president, he probably wouldn't appoint Andrej Babiš as PM in the first place, in which case the problem of Filip Turek as foreign minister would be avoided. Like defense-industry lobby-ist Petr Kolář before him, Rychetský said he wouldn't jump to conclusions about how the situation will develop. The president can appoint two governments that don't get confirmation, he stressed. If Pres. Pavel is looking for a way to give his favorite, STAN Chair Vít Rakušan, the first chance to form a government, Rychetský has now supplied fairly explicit instructions.

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