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## Conflicts of interest about Nov. 17



The news cycle has turned back to Filip Turek of the Motorists, in part because he said on the Nov. 17 holiday that the Velvet Revolution 36 years ago was [organized](#) by the StB and by those who shepherded the Communists to elect Václav Havel as president. This was met with general condemnation in the mainstream media. Yet the revolution was indeed arranged by the "intelligence elite, by the intellectual pinnacle of the criminal regime," at least according to ex-Finance Min. Miroslav Kalousek. He told [TOP 09's party congress](#) 10 years ago that the "nomenklatura Communists" had a significant head start in all post-Communist countries and that this head start permanently damaged the path to freedom of these countries, because it undermined the trust of the unprivileged. This could explain why the mainstream media rushed to label Turek's claim as nonsense. Many of the CR's opinion leaders derive directly or indirectly from this "nomenklatura" and have an undeclared conflict of interest about Nov. 17.

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