FIRST PROMPT: prosim prevedi v angleščino

**Is history repeating itself? Golob repeated Cerar’s mistake that cost him the position of prime minister**  
*Date: April 13, 2025, 11:48*

Prime Minister Miro Cerar resigned in 2018, triggering early elections, because the Constitutional and Supreme Courts ruled that his government had acted fraudulently by allocating one hundred thousand euros for a propaganda campaign during the referendum on the second railway track. I pointed out the unfairness of this in *Spletni časopis* as soon as the government announced its participation in the campaign. Opponents of the project did not receive an equal amount of public money — in fact, they received none at all. The Supreme Court’s decision to annul the referendum on the second track was the final straw, Cerar said when he stepped down. The government fell, and the referendum was repeated.

At the start of the referendum on granting massive privileges to the cultural elite (desno), Robert Golob repeated the mistake of former Prime Minister Miro Cerar. They learn nothing. Just a week ago, Golob appeared on both of the country’s largest TV networks — POP TV and RTV Slovenia — as Prime Minister, urging the public to boycott the referendum and promoting the privileged pension scheme. He wasn’t there as a party leader.

He shouldn’t have done that. And he mustn’t do it again. This is an abuse of power. The government and its leader must not intervene in party disputes before a referendum. They must serve all citizens, noWt just the projects of Freedom, SD, and Levica parties, which are trying to enshrine new privileges into law. Using our money. But since the opposition party SDS gathered 40,000 signatures, the people will have the final say. If the people reject the idea, there will be no privileges. Since Golob joined the campaign as Prime Minister — something he should not have done — any rejection will also be a vote of no confidence in the entire government.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Culture Asta Vrečko can of course campaign as leaders of the Freedom and Levica parties. But the Prime Minister and ministers must not use public funds or their positions to gain an advantage over competitors in elections. To be clear: they must not send secret services, police, or the army into the campaign or to polling stations to prevent votes for opposition parties. They must not threaten opposition supporters with punishment or monitor how they vote. They must not pay for votes using public funds. Or anything similar.

We are no longer a communist dictatorship. (desno) It is strange that no one seriously pointed out to Prime Minister Golob that he must not call for a boycott of the referendum in his official capacity. (V originalnem besedilu avtor v tem stavku uporabi besedo propagandno pozivati, propagandno pa LLM izpusti, kar bi lahko nakazalo na politično preferenco). Even the legal experts around him remain silent.

Previously, similar pension rights — guaranteeing the highest possible pension (over 3,000 euros net) — were legally granted in 2017 to athletes and to Peter Vilfan himself (a former MP of PS, SAB, and DeSUS) through a law widely supported by the left, during Cerar’s government.

Somewhat comically, the most vocal critic of Golob’s and Vrečko’s excesses (desno) in this campaign has been entrepreneur and former politician Marko Bandelli — now a critic of the very government he once supported. He criticized Levica for equating cultural pensions with culture and art, the latter being under their ministry.

It’s absolutely clear that the referendum is not for or against culture. Cultural activity does not depend on privileged 3,000-euro pensions. If that were true, culture wouldn’t exist. Not even in the rest of Europe. Such extensive pension privileges have never existed here in past centuries — nor do they exist in wealthier parts of Europe. Yet those places are still centers of great cultural achievement.

Another major manipulation we are witnessing is the argument that these huge pension bonuses are necessary because previous governments — under socialist law — already granted them, and that rejecting them means attacking the legacy of the previous regime and Josip Broz Tito. The opposition cannot repeal socialist-era laws. Only the government parties could — but they haven’t even considered it. Instead, they are expanding those rights. They are building on Tito’s legacy.

The differences are in very practical consequences. Under the socialist-era law, since Slovenia’s independence, only a handful of athletes received such privileges — for example, the father of former PM Miro Cerar. But under Peter Vilfan’s 2017 law, enacted during Cerar’s government, already over a hundred individuals have received them — including Vilfan himself.

The same will happen now with cultural workers if the majority of voters do not reject the massive pension privileges in the referendum. Governments — especially since independence — have handed out these privileges to cultural workers more generously than to athletes. The new law would turn what used to be a possibility into a guaranteed right. The socialist law allowed the government to approve or reject all applications. The proposed law makes these rights enforceable — the government would no longer decide.

There’s a similar manipulation going around: that privileges under the old law could be inherited, while under the new one they cannot. The socialist-era law never allowed automatic inheritance. It only allowed the government to grant privileges to family members if it chose to do so and issued an official decree. This happened after independence, when left-leaning governments like Janez Drnovšek’s widely granted such pensions (for example, to Svetlana Makarovič over 25 years ago). This is one case of a family member receiving such a privilege:

Automatic inheritance appeared in the past decade — not because of the socialist-era law, but *despite* it. (V originalnu ni poševno) According to the new pension system (ZPIZ-2), widows, widowers, and similarly “deserving” (v originalu ni v narekovajih) individuals suddenly gained automatic rights to inherit bonuses — as did war veterans, revolutionaries, and other privileged groups. ZPIZ didn’t even inform the public about these allocations. Under the old law, (zakon iz socializma = the old law, zakaj je tako prevedel) the government had to publish decisions when granting family benefits.

Names and surnames of recipients (srečnežev = recipients, srečnežev je precej bolj sarkastično in ironično, recipients je precej nevtralno) were hidden. The allocation became automatic. When I requested data, the government and ZPIZ even tried to withhold who inherited these bonuses. Eventually, the Information Commissioner forced them to send me the list for 2022.

Before the referendum, I have now requested from ZPIZ a complete list of all heirs who received this bonus in the past decade — including dates. I’m still waiting for a response. But people deserve to know. Everything. Because we’ll be voting in a referendum. And we can’t do that without all the facts. The government must help citizens with accurate explanations and information — which is incompatible with the propaganda we’ve already seen.

**Peter Jančič, Spletni časopis**

OBSERVATIONS: The text comes from a slovenian right-wing newspaper. While the text does keep the right-wing tone and sentences, it changes some words to more neutral ones or annotates? parts that were not annotated in the original.

NEW PROMPT:

**Is History Repeating Itself? Golob Repeats Cerar’s Mistake That Cost Him the Premiership**  
*13 April 2025, 11:48*

Prime Minister Miro Cerar resigned in 2018 and triggered early elections after both the Constitutional and Supreme Courts found that his government had cheated by allocating 100,000 euros in public money for a propaganda campaign during the referendum on the second railway track. I had warned in *Spletni časopis* immediately that the move was unfair when the government announced it would join the campaign. Opponents of the project got no public money. None. The Supreme Court’s annulment of the referendum was the final straw, Cerar said when stepping down. The government collapsed, and the vote had to be repeated.

Now, as the referendum campaign on huge privileges for the cultural elite begins, Robert Golob is repeating the mistake made by former Prime Minister Cerar. They learn absolutely nothing. A week ago, Golob went on both major TV stations—POP TV and RTV Slovenia—as the Prime Minister, calling on people to boycott the referendum and promoting the privileged pension scheme. He did this not as party leader, but as Prime Minister.

He shouldn’t have done that. And he must not repeat it. This is an abuse of power. The government and its head cannot interfere in party conflicts during referendums. Their duty is to serve all citizens—not to push through projects cooked up by the Freedom Movement, the Social Democrats, and the Left to pass new privileges in parliament. All at the taxpayers’ expense. But because the opposition SDS collected over 40,000 signatures, the people will decide. If they reject the law, there will be no privileges. And because Golob joined the campaign as Prime Minister—when he had no right to—that rejection will also be a vote of no confidence in his government.

The Prime Minister and Culture Minister Asta Vrečko can campaign as party leaders of the Freedom Movement and the Left. But they absolutely may not abuse public funds or their state positions to gain an upper hand in elections. Let me be clear: they may not deploy secret services, police, or military at polling stations to block votes for opponents. They may not threaten opposition supporters or track their votes. They may not buy votes with state money. Or anything of the kind.

We’re no longer a communist dictatorship. It’s alarming that no one has seriously pointed out to the Prime Minister that he cannot call for a boycott of a referendum. Even legal experts remain silent.

Similar privileges (net pensions exceeding €3,000) were broadly legalized for athletes—including Vilfan himself—in 2017 under Cerar’s government, thanks to a proposal by former MP Peter Vilfan.

Ironically, one of the most scathing critics of Golob’s and Vrečko’s campaign overreach is entrepreneur and former politician Marko Bandelli, who was once part of the ruling parties. He slammed the Left for equating pension privileges for artists with culture and art—both under their minister’s control.

This referendum is clearly not about being for or against culture. Cultural work does not depend on privileged pensions. If it did, there would be no culture in Europe. Such expansive pension benefits have never existed here before and don’t even exist in richer European countries. Yet Europe still manages to produce outstanding culture.

Another trick they’re using is claiming that the privileges are necessary because past governments already awarded them under a socialist law. The opposition can’t revoke this law—only the ruling parties can, and they don’t want to. On the contrary, they’re expanding Tito’s legacy.

The difference in practice is huge. Under the socialist-era law, only a handful of athletes (like Cerar’s father) received these perks after independence. Under Vilfan’s law—passed during Cerar’s rule—hundreds of people have already claimed them, including Vilfan himself.

The same will likely happen with cultural workers if voters don’t reject the new law. The government has already granted them these rights more frequently than to athletes. But the key point is: the new law gives them a legal *right*. Under socialism, authorities had discretion to approve or deny applications. The new law creates a guaranteed, enforceable entitlement.

Another manipulation: the government claims these privileges used to be inheritable under the socialist law, but won’t be anymore. That’s a lie. The old law never allowed for inheritance. But the government could grant benefits to family members—and left-wing governments, especially under Janez Drnovšek, did just that (e.g., to Svetlana Makarovič 25 years ago).

Automatic inheritance only came into play in the past decade—not because of the old law, but due to the ZPIZ-2 pension reform. Suddenly, widows and others got automatic rights to inherit these benefits, like war veterans or revolutionaries. ZPIZ didn’t even announce these entitlements publicly. Unlike in socialism, when such decisions had to be published.

The names of those receiving the benefits were hidden. The awarding of benefits became automatic. When I demanded the data, ZPIZ and the government refused. Only after the Information Commissioner stepped in did I finally obtain the 2022 list.

Now, before the referendum, I’ve asked ZPIZ for the full list of all recipients and the dates when benefits were granted over the past decade. I’m still waiting. People deserve the full picture—because they’re the ones voting. But we can’t make an informed decision without the facts and time to reflect. The government must present clear and honest information—something that doesn’t go hand in hand with the propaganda we’re already seeing.

**Peter Jančič, Spletni časopis**