Country: Czech Republic

Year: 1945

Head of government: Richard Bienert

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Office of the President of the Czech Republic identifies Bienert as a member of the National Partnership (*Národní souručenství*, NS). World Leaders Index identifies NS as fascist and therefore rightist: “NS=Národní Sourcenství (National Partnership, fascist only legal party 1939-1945).” World Statesmen (2020) identifies Bienert as non-party in 1945.

Years: 1946-1952

Head of government: Klement Gottwald

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (*Komunistická strana Československa* – *KSC*). DPI identifies KSC’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015-2006: 389) elaborates, writing that “the KSČ was the only East European Communist Party to retain legal status in the 1930s” and that “the Czech component of the KSČ relaunched itself as the KSČM, with a socialist rather than a Marxist-Leninist orientation”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) as 1.6. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Gottwald’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 211) identifies Gottwald’s ideology as leftist, writing that “the communists in the Czech government, led by Premier Klement Gottwald, demanded that a communist-dominated government be established in 1948.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSC); it identifies the party as leftist: “Marxist-Leninist communist”. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy KSC’s party family as communist. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Far-left” (-3.705) in 1990.

Years: 1953-1967

Head of government: Antonín Novotny

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (*Komunistická strana Československa* – *KSC*). DPI identifies KSC’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015-2006: 389) elaborates, writing that “the KSČ was the only East European Communist Party to retain legal status in the 1930s” and that “the Czech component of the KSČ relaunched itself as the KSČM, with a socialist rather than a Marxist-Leninist orientation”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) as 1.6. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Novotny’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 212) identifies Novotny’s ideology as leftist, writing that “a supporter of Josef Stalin, he was instrumental in the Stalinist takeover of the Czechoslovak government” and that “Novotny’s close association with Moscow led to criticism from more liberal members of the Czech Communist Party.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSC); it identifies the party as leftist: “Marxist-Leninist communist”. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy KSC’s party family as communist. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Far-left” (-3.705) in 1990.

Years: 1968

Head of government: Alexander Dubcek

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (*Komunistická strana Československa* – *KSC*). DPI identifies KSC’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015-2006: 389) elaborates, writing that “the KSČ was the only East European Communist Party to retain legal status in the 1930s” and that “the Czech component of the KSČ relaunched itself as the KSČM, with a socialist rather than a Marxist-Leninist orientation”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) as 1.6. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy KSC’s party family as communist. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Far-left” (-3.705) in 1990.

Years: 1969-1986

Head of government: Gustáv Husák

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (*Komunistická strana Československa* – *KSC*). DPI identifies KSC’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015-2006: 389) elaborates, writing that “the KSČ was the only East European Communist Party to retain legal status in the 1930s” and that “the Czech component of the KSČ relaunched itself as the KSČM, with a socialist rather than a Marxist-Leninist orientation”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) as 1.6. Manzano (2017) identifies ideology as leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Husak’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 214) identifies Husak’s ideology as leftist, writing that “Husak was arrested by the German-controlled Slovakian government for his communist activities.” World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSC); it identifies the party as leftist: “Marxist-Leninist communist”. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy KSC’s party family as communist. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Far-left” (-3.705) in 1990.

Years: 1987-1988

Head of government: Milos Jakes

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (*Komunistická strana Československa* – *KSC*). DPI identifies KSC’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2015-2006: 389) elaborates, writing that “the KSČ was the only East European Communist Party to retain legal status in the 1930s” and that “the Czech component of the KSČ relaunched itself as the KSČM, with a socialist rather than a Marxist-Leninist orientation”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) as 1.6. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Jakes’s ideology as leftist. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy KSC’s party family as communist. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Far-left” (-3.705) in 1990.

Years: 1989-1991

Head of government: Marián Čalfa

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as KSC (*Komunistická strana Československa* – *KSC*) in 1989, as Public Against Violence (*Verejnosť proti násiliu* - *VPN*) in 1990, and Civic Democratic Union (*Občianska demokratická únia* - *ODU*) in 1991. Regional Studies of the World (2004: 216) identifies CDU as rightist, writing that “the three centre-right parties – CDP, CDU, and the FU – won 102 of the 200 seats”. Stradling (2006: 373) also identifies Calfa as rightist, writing that “the new federal government was made up of essentially a coalition between VPN and Civic Forum, with the support of Czech and Slovak centre-right parties and was headed by Marian Calfa of VPN”. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Calfa’s ideology as leftist. Lentz (1994: 217) writes that “Calfa resigned from the Communist Party in 1989 and succeeded Ladislav Adamec as premier on December 10, 1989, at the head of a non-communist government.” Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy KSC’s party family as communist. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify KSC’s ideology as “Far-left” (-3.705) in 1990. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s cohesion as “Negligible visible disagreement” in 1990.

Years: 1992

Head of government: Jan Strásky

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Civic Democratic Party (*Občanská demokratická strana* - *ODS*). DPI identifies ODS’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 388) elaborates, writing that “intensely anticommunist, the ODS quickly built … an electoral coalition with the Christian Democratic Party”. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that ODS’s ideology is rightist. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Strasky’s ideology as centrist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as the Civic Democratic Party (ODS); it identifies the party as: “center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Civic Democratic Union (ODS) as 7.7. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify ODS’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as 6 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy ODS’s party family as conservative. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 344) identify ODS as rightist, writing that “ODS is a center-right party that advocates continuation of the move toward a free-market economy and a limited role for the state”. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.672) in 1992.

Years: 1993-1996

Head of government: Václav Klaus

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Civic Democratic Party (*Občanská demokratická strana* - *ODS*). DPI identifies ODS’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 388) elaborates, writing that “intensely anticommunist, the ODS quickly built … an electoral coalition with the Christian Democratic Party”. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that ODS’s ideology is rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 381) identifies Klaus’s ideology as rightist, writing that “Klaus favored a right-of-center liberal economic policy with rapid privatization”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Klaus’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as the Civic Democratic Party (ODS); it identifies the party as: “center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Civic Democratic Union (ODS) as 7.7. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify ODS’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as 6 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy ODS’s party family as conservative. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 344) identify ODS as rightist, writing that “ODS is a center-right party that advocates continuation of the move toward a free-market economy and a limited role for the state”. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 344) identify Klaus as rightist, writing that “Many of Klaus’s ideas come close to those of former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher. The ODS instigated many of the economic reforms of the early and mid-1990s. While in government the party promoted a voucher privatization scheme and also tried to cut down on state bureaucracy. One of the party’s main electoral pledges was a set rate of income tax at 15 percent. ODS campaigned for limited role of the state and a more liberal economy.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.672) in 1992 and “Right” (1.771) in 1996.

Year: 1997

Head of Government: Josef Tosovsky

Ideology:

Description: Rulers (2020) and Vysoka Skola Ekonomicka V Praze (2018) identify Josef Tosovsky instead of Vaclav Klaus as head of government on December 31, 1997. CHISOLS and World Statesmen (2020) identify Tosovsky’s party as none. Rulers (2019) identifies Tosovsky as non-party, writing that “his lack of affiliation to any political party made him an easy target for partisan bickering.” Rulers (2019) writes that “an inflation hawk who earned the 1995 ‘Banker of the Year’ honor at the International Banker’s Forum, Tosovsky reluctantly accepted Pres. Vaclav Havel’s plea in December 1997 to guide the country”.

Years: 1998-2001

Head of government: Milos Zeman

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Czechoslovak Party of Social Democracy (*Česká strana sociálně demokratická* – CSSD). DPI identifies CSSD’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on CSSD’s ideology. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CSSD’s ideology is leftist. Political Handbook of the World (2005-2006: 385) identifies Zeman as leftist, writing that left-leaning former prime minister Miloš Zeman became the first popularly elected president of the Czech Republic”. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Zeman’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD); it identifies the party as leftist: “social-democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD) as 3.2. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify CSSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 3.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy CSSD’s party family as social democracy. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 346) identify CSSD as leftist, writing that “the party tries to promote itself as a modern social democratic European party. In terms of ideas and relations it identifies closely with German Social Democrats and the British Labour Party. The Social Democratic Party is an active member of the Socialist International. The party tries to promote a “social market economy,” and it led a major privatization process along with measures to encourage foreign investment.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.293) in 1998.

Years: 2002-2003

Head of government: Vladimír Špidla

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Czechoslovak Party of Social Democracy (*Česká strana sociálně demokratická* – CSSD). DPI identifies CSSD’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on CSSD’s ideology. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CSSD’s ideology is leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Spidla’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD); it identifies the party as leftist: “social-democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD) as 3.2. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify CSSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 3.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy CSSD’s party family as social democracy. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 346) identify CSSD as leftist, writing that “the party tries to promote itself as a modern social democratic European party. In terms of ideas and relations it identifies closely with German Social Democrats and the British Labour Party. The Social Democratic Party is an active member of the Socialist International. The party tries to promote a “social market economy,” and it led a major privatization process along with measures to encourage foreign investment.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.293) in 2002.

Year: 2004

Head of government: Stanislav Gross

Ideology: left

Description HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Czechoslovak Party of Social Democracy (*Česká strana sociálně demokratická* – CSSD). DPI identifies CSSD’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on CSSD’s ideology. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CSSD’s ideology is leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Gross’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD); it identifies the party as leftist: “social-democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD) as 3.2. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify CSSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 3.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy CSSD’s party family as social democracy. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 346) identify CSSD as leftist, writing that “the party tries to promote itself as a modern social democratic European party. In terms of ideas and relations it identifies closely with German Social Democrats and the British Labour Party. The Social Democratic Party is an active member of the Socialist International. The party tries to promote a “social market economy,” and it led a major privatization process along with measures to encourage foreign investment.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.293) in 2002.

Year: 2005

Head of government: Jirí Paroubek

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Czechoslovak Party of Social Democracy (*Česká strana sociálně demokratická* – CSSD). DPI identifies CSSD’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on CSSD’s ideology. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CSSD’s ideology is leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Paroubek’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD); it identifies the party as leftist: “social-democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD) as 3.2. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify CSSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 3.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy CSSD’s party family as social democracy. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 346) identify CSSD as leftist, writing that “the party tries to promote itself as a modern social democratic European party. In terms of ideas and relations it identifies closely with German Social Democrats and the British Labour Party. The Social Democratic Party is an active member of the Socialist International. The party tries to promote a “social market economy,” and it led a major privatization process along with measures to encourage foreign investment.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.293) in 2002.

Years: 2006-2008

Head of government: Mirek Topolánek

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Civic Democratic Party (*Občanská demokratická strana* – *ODS*). DPI identifies ODS’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 388) elaborates, writing that “intensely anticommunist, the ODS quickly built … an electoral coalition with the Christian Democratic Party”. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that ODS’s ideology is rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Topolanek’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as the Civic Democratic Party (ODS); it identifies the party as: “center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Civic Democratic Union (ODS) as 7.7. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify ODS’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as 6 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy ODS’s party family as conservative. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 344) identify ODS as rightist, writing that “ODS is a center-right party that advocates continuation of the move toward a free-market economy and a limited role for the state”. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.634) in 2006.

Year: 2009

Head of government: Jan Fischer

Ideology: centrist

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Turner (2014: 390) identifies Jan Fischer as non-party. Fischer identifies himself as a centrist (Radio Praha: 2012), stating in an interview: “I don’t like to place myself on the right or on the left. I would say I’m well positioned in the centre”. World Statesmen (2020) identifies Fischer as non-party. The Guardian (2013) identifies Fischer as centrist, writing that “The left-of-centre Zeman, who was prime minister from 1998 to 2002, leads the polls with about 25% support. Fischer, a centrist and a former state bureaucrat, gained significant popularity when he led a caretaker government in 2009-10. He is polling at about 20%.” The Wall Street Journal (2013) also confirms Fischer to be centrist: “the nation will for the first time elect its new leader in a popular vote this weekend, and the latest poll, published this week by the Stem/Mark pollster, shows the most likely candidates to qualify for the run-off are left-of-center Milos Zeman and centrist Jan Fischer.”

Years: 2010-2012

Head of government: Petr Necas

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS identifies party as the Civic Democratic Party (*Občanská demokratická strana* – *ODS*). DPI identifies ODS’s ideology as rightist. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 388) elaborates, writing that “intensely anticommunist, the ODS quickly built … an electoral coalition with the Christian Democratic Party”. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that ODS’s ideology is rightist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Necas’s ideology as rightist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as the Civic Democratic Party (ODS); it identifies the party as: “center-right”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Civic Democratic Union (ODS) as 7.7. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify ODS’s oppose-support market score as 6 and its support-oppose welfare score as 6 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy ODS’s party family as conservative. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 344) identify ODS as rightist, writing that “ODS is a center-right party that advocates continuation of the move toward a free-market economy and a limited role for the state”. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-right” (1.463) in 2010.

Year: 2013

Head of government: Jiri Rusnok

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify party affiliation. World Statesmen (2020) identifies party affiliation as none. Rulers (2019) identifies party affiliation as CSSD. DPI identifies CSSD’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on CSSD’s ideology. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CSSD’s ideology is leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Rusnok’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD); it identifies the party as leftist: “social-democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD) as 3.2. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify CSSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 3.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy CSSD’s party family as social democracy. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 346) identify CSSD as leftist, writing that “the party tries to promote itself as a modern social democratic European party. In terms of ideas and relations it identifies closely with German Social Democrats and the British Labour Party. The Social Democratic Party is an active member of the Socialist International. The party tries to promote a “social market economy,” and it led a major privatization process along with measures to encourage foreign investment.”

Years: 2014-2016

Head of government: Bohuslav Sobotka

Ideology: left

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 383) identifies Sobotka’s party as the Czechoslovak Party of Social Democracy (*Česká strana sociálně demokratická* – CSSD). DPI identifies CSSD’s ideology as leftist. Political Handbook of the World does not provide any information on CSSD’s ideology. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that CSSD’s ideology is leftist. Perspective Monde (2019) identifies Sobotka’s ideology as leftist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD); it identifies the party as leftist: “social-democratic”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD) as 3.2. Rohrschneider and Whitefield (2009) identify CSSD’s oppose-support market score as approximately 3.5 and its support-oppose welfare score as approximately 3.5 on scales from 1-7. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy CSSD’s party family as social democracy. Pederson & Margaras (2006: 346) identify CSSD as leftist, writing that “the party tries to promote itself as a modern social democratic European party. In terms of ideas and relations it identifies closely with German Social Democrats and the British Labour Party. The Social Democratic Party is an active member of the Socialist International. The party tries to promote a “social market economy,” and it led a major privatization process along with measures to encourage foreign investment.” In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-1.293) in 2013.

Years: 2017-2020

Head of government: Andrej Babiš

Ideology: right

Description: HoG does not identify ideology. CHISOLS does not identify head of government. Political Handbook of the World (2015: 383) identifies Babis’s party as Action of Dissatisfied Citizens (*Akce nespokojených občanů* 2011 – ANO). Political Handbook (2015: 383) identifies ANO’s ideology as rightist, writing that ANO is “a center-right grouping formed in 2011 by Andrej Babis”. Armingeon et al. (2018) agree that ANO’s ideology is rightist. Perspective Monde (2019), however, identifies Babis’s ideology as centrist. World Statesmen (2020) identifies the party as Action of Dissatisfied Citizens (ANO); it identifies the party as centrist: “centrist, liberal, populist”. In the Global Party Survey 2019, 31 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of the Action of Dissatisfied Citizens 2011 (ANO) as 3.8. Döring and Manow (2019) identifiy ANO’s party family as liberal. In V-Party (2020), 7 experts identify head of government party’s ideology as “Center-left” (-0.543) in 2017. DPI has no information on ANO. Stegmaier (2014) writes, “in 2013 [ANO] repositioned more toward center right,” and, “Given ANO 2011’s position on the center-right, there is the possibility that this party could become the dominant right party, replacing the nearly defunct ODS.” The article describes ANO as an anti-corruption party with a political message of “cleaning up the system and giving more power to the citizens.” When describing the current government at the time of publication (2014) they state that the three main areas of its focus are “sustainable economic growth based on free market principles,” “aims to fight corruption” and “reconstruct the state based on the rationalization of the state financing and property usage.” Kopecek (2016) describes ANO being run as a business firm party, stating, “The entrance of ANO into government after the 2013 election led to a shift in its programme and its anti-political appeals were promptly transformed into a notionally centre-right orientation.”

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