

= Libor Michálek =

Mgr . Libor Michálek , MPA (born 1968) is a Czech economist , politician , and whistleblower . He led successful corruption cases against the Czech National Property Fund and the Environment Ministry as former employees of both . He is the first Pirate Party candidate to be elected to office in a national legislature . His senatorial term is 2012 ? 2018 .

= = Early life and career = =

Michálek was born in Náchod in 1968 . He graduated from high school in P?erov in 1987 , and from Palacký University of Olomouc in 1992 . He later studied in Masaryk University 's management program , and received his MPA from Nottingham Trent University 's executive program in 2010 . After college , he worked as a UNIX programmer , business school teacher , and portfolio manager at an investment company . Michálek was a broker at the National Property Fund from 1994 to 1996 , when he was fired after exposing a tunneling embezzlement scheme . The resulting court case found that he was improperly dismissed . He was later involved in compensating victims of financial crime . Michálek served as a capital market supervisor at the Czech Ministry of Finance from 1997 to 1998 , a director at the Czech Securities Commission from 1998 to 2006 , a director at the Czech National Bank from 2006 to 2007 , a senior consultant at the World Bank in 2007 , and the chief financial market inspector at the Czech National Bank from 2008 to 2010 .

In August 2010 , he became the director of the Czech State Environmental Fund . On December 13 , 2010 , Michálek filed a criminal complaint of corruption against the Environment Ministry in its tender for reconstruction of a Prague water treatment plant . He claimed the project was overpriced by 3 @,@ 000 @,@ 000 @,@ 000 K? K? . Based on a secretly audiotaped conversation , Michálek also alleged that Martin Knetig , an advisor to environmental minister Pavel Drobil , asked him to manipulate the tender to fund his party (the Civic Democrats) and Drobil 's political career . Michálek recorded his subsequent conversation with Drobil , who allegedly offered his deputy position for the destruction of the tapes . Upon the story 's publication , Drobil fired Michálek and Knetig , denied any wrongdoing , and resigned a day later .

Prime Minister Petr Ne?as defended Drobil , and called Michálek untrustworthy despite his public reputation as a whistleblower . Since the Civic Democrats vowed to fight corruption , losing its first minister to corruption charges was a blow to the party 's standing . The Drobil incident was the first of several high @-@ profile resignations . On December 21 , 2010 , Czech Police Chief Oldrich Martinu resigned after Interior Minister Radek John 's month @-@ long call for his ouster in part due to the Drobil case 's mishandling . Michálek returned to the State Environmental Fund as a financial analyst in 2011 . The Drobil case is on indefinite hiatus for a lack of evidence as of September 2012 . As of February 2013 , the case against Knetig is on a similar hiatus for insufficient evidence .

Michálek is married and has three children . He is an evangelical Christian .

= = The Senate = =

At the end of July 2012 , Libor Michálek accepted the Czech Pirate , Green , and Christian Democrat Party senatorial nominations for District 26 . The Pirate Party was his primary affiliation due to its transparency and accountability platforms . His personal 12 @-@ point platform prioritized direct democracy , fair political party competition , and anti @-@ corruption oversight efforts alongside social welfare reforms . In the October 2012 elections , he won 24 @.@ 3 percent of the first round vote and 74 @.@ 4 percent of the first @-@ past @-@ the @-@ post runoff , giving him the seat . Another candidate , Karel Berka , challenged the decision , but the Czech Supreme Administrative Court found the claims unfounded . He was the first Pirate Party candidate to be elected to national office , the 81 @-@ seat Czech Senate . His senatorial term is 2012 ? 2018 .

Czech President Milo? Zeman has publicly considered Michálek for leading the Supreme Audit Office . In 2013 , Michálek authored the first bill designed to protect whistleblowers , which was overwhelming rejected on the floor of the Senate .

= = Awards = =

In March 2011 , Michálek was awarded first prize from the Endowment Fund Against Corruption for his whistleblowing role in the Environment Ministry corruption scandal . In May 2011 , he was awarded the František Kriegel Prize by the Charter 77 Foundation for his " brave , consistent and uncompromising fight against corruption in government . "