

Press Release
19 January 2015

Govt appointments committee won't solve cushy jobs in state companies

The Government is supposed to discuss today a report on the performance of its committee on personnel appointments, established in March 2014. NGOs Frank Bold and Nasi politici warn that nine months on the appointments system fails to deliver and the general public has no relevant information on the appointments of members of the state-owned enterprises' supervisory boards. Moreover, the Government has backed from its earlier commitment to pursue a special bill which would see the introduction of transparent criteria of such appointments.

“The Government nomination committee seems to be creating an optical illusion of the cabinet tackling the problem of cushy jobs in the supervisory boards of state-owned companies. But this committee in its present incarnation fails to meet international recommendations as well as the electoral promises of the coalition leaders. The committee interviews candidates and communicates its recommendations to the general public—which is a good thing to do. However, it has failed to study the personal histories and potential risks of conflict of interest pertaining to likely candidates, and it does not announce in fair advance the requirements for candidates in individual companies,” notes Martin Fadrný, a lawyer for the Frank Bold organization.

“What’s more, this committee actually consists of three persons appointed by the coalition leaders and as such it cannot be taken for an independent body of experts the general public might see as a counterbalance to possible political pressures,” Mr. Fadrný explains.

Moreover it follows from the plan of legislative work that the coalition might be content with this solution, as it no longer plans to enact legislation on appointments to supervisory boards of state-owned enterprises. Should that happen, even the modicum of progress represented by the nomination committee might be cancelled by a stroke of pen of any future prime minister.

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A detailed evaluation of the Committee's endeavours is available [here](#) in Czech.

About Reconstruction of the State

The anti-corruption project Reconstruction of the State was launched in March 2013 with the aim to promote nine key legislations, which would dramatically reduce room for corruption and prevent the ongoing state capture. Commitment to promote the legislation was confirmed in writing before the elections by more than 160 current members of parliament, including the leaders of the main political parties. **Members of the NGO coalition:** Oživení, Transparency International, Frank Bold, Otakar Motejl Fund, Center of Applied Economics (zIndex), Open Society, Brnění, Pražské fórum, Zaostřeno, Zelený kruh, Anticorruption Endowment (NFPK), Inventura demokracie, Glopolis, Good Governance, Naši politici, Iuridicum Remedium, ProAlt, Kohovolit.eu, and PragueWatch. The coalition receives financial support from scores of small donors, companies and foundations, the list of whom can be found on the project website.

Reconstruction of the State has long-term support from the Otakar Motejl Fund. www.motejl.cz

Supported by a grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway in the framework of EEA Grants. www.fondnno.cz, www.eeagrants.cz

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