

An Open Letter to Prime Minister Andrej Babiš

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AUTHOR	LetterToLeader AI Editorial
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Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing this letter to you from Prague, where the view of the Vltava River from Letná Park remains as timeless as ever. To the outside world, the Czech Republic is a vibrant Central European powerhouse—a landscape of historic architecture, booming automotive industry, and a key regional player.

However, since your populist ANO movement swept back into power and you reassumed the premiership, the domestic atmosphere has shifted from fatigue under the previous administration to intense, anxious anticipation. You campaigned on fixing the economic drift left by the Fiala government, promising to run the state efficiently and lower the cost of living. Yet, as you sit in the Strakova Akademie, working alongside President Petr Pavel—the very man who defeated you in the presidential race—the Czech public is watching closely, wondering whether your return means real relief or a return to deep political polarization and legal battles with Brussels.

The Czech Republic cannot afford a premiership focused on settling past political scores. We need urgent, transparent, and fair economic stewardship that protects both our pockets and our institutions:

The Cost-of-Living Crisis and Inflation Recovery: You built your campaign on the genuine economic pain of the Czech middle class, who felt abandoned by the previous government's rigid consolidation packages. Now, the ball is in your court. The public expects you to tame the remnants of inflation and ease the tax burden on small businesses and working families without blowing an unfixable hole in the state budget. The Czech people need real purchasing power, not just short-term populist subsidies that fuel future inflation cycles.

The Housing Market Strife: Housing in Prague and Brno has reached crisis proportions, completely locking out the younger generation. The previous administration's attempt to digitize and speed up building permits was a notorious administrative disaster. As a self-proclaimed elite manager, your government must fundamentally fix the construction framework and actively incentivize affordable municipal housing. If young families cannot afford a home, the demographic future of our country will stall.

Economic Modernization Beyond the Factory Floor: For years, our prosperity has been deeply tied to the German automotive supply chain. With Germany's heavy industry facing structural stagnation, our economic dependence is becoming a vulnerability. Your administration cannot simply protect traditional industrial lobbies; you must aggressively fund local technology startups, secure long-term energy independence, and elevate Czechia from a low-wage assembly workshop to a high-value technological hub.

The Rule of Law and European Cohesion: Your previous tenure was heavily shadowed by conflicts of interest regarding your former business empire, Agrofert, and intense scrutiny over European subsidy usage. The Czech public and our partners in Brussels are highly vigilant. Leading a coalition means you must demonstrate absolute transparency. Any attempt to compromise the independence of public media or the judiciary to shield your personal or political interests will plunge the country into massive civil unrest and international isolation.

Mr. Prime Minister, your political resilience is undeniable. You managed an impressive electoral comeback, channeling the frustrations of millions of citizens. Furthermore, your initial pragmatism—such as coordinating pragmatically with President Pavel and engaging in vital regional energy diplomacy regarding fuel security—shows you understand the weight of your office.

But executing a successful comeback is only half the battle; governing for the entirety of the nation is the real test. Step away from divisive rhetoric. Prove to your critics that you can govern transparently, respect democratic guardrails, and genuinely build economic breathing room for the Czech middle class without alienating our Western allies.

With an urgent call for political responsibility and transparent results,

A Citizen of the Czech Republic

Executive Leadership Audit: Prime Minister Andrej Babiš An evaluation of the Prime Minister's performance and governance approach since his return to office (on a strict scale from 1 to 5):

Political Resilience and Campaign Strategy: 4.7 (Outstanding electoral engineer. Capitalized flawlessly on public frustration with the previous government's austerity to secure a massive comeback for the ANO movement)

Pragmatic Governance and Executive Management: 3.8 (Approaches state administration with an intense, business-like focus; has managed to establish a functioning, stable working relationship with President Petr Pavel despite their historical rivalry)

Economic Relief and Structural Reform: 3.0 (Has initiated popular short-term measures to ease the cost-of-living burden, but a long-term structural strategy to replace the stagnating industrial model remains vague)

Transparency and Institutional Integrity: 2.4 (The administration's most vulnerable front. His return instantly re-ignited concerns regarding conflicts of interest, corporate influence over politics, and friction with EU regulatory standards)

Final Verdict: 3.48 / The Resurgent Manager. Andrej Babiš has pulled off one of the most significant political comebacks in modern Czech history, proving his profound connection with the domestic electorate. He returns to power as a highly focused, pragmatic manager. However, his legacy during this term will entirely depend on whether he can elevate the Czech economy without backsliding into institutional conflicts of interest or damaging the country's democratic reputation within the European Union.

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