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Conniver of the year

Time Magazine's definition for Person of the Year is "the person who has most profoundly influenced the world during the past year, for better or for worse." If we Czechify this to mean our own little world, the winner might very well be Chief State Prosecutor Renáta Vesecká. She's not exactly Putin (Time's choice), but she probably did more than anyone else last year to shatter confidence in the Czech justice system, by maneuvering to shelve the corruption charges against KDU Chair Jiří Čunek. Speaking on Czech TV's "Reportéři" last night, Chief Justice Pavel Rychetský of the Constitutional Court said her behavior was "unprecedented." On another level, she also did a disservice to women by sending the message that, like Lucie Talmanová before her, the best way for a woman to succeed in Czech public life is to jump into bed - figuratively in Vesecká's case - with the conniving men in power.

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