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Corruption report 2007

Jiří Čunek made the headlines for his double appearance in the U.S. State Dept.'s [2007 Report on Human Rights Practices](#), but there are juicier tidbits than this in the document's pages. Most revealing is the near-verbatim repetition of a line from the [2006 report](#) stating that "political pressure and ineffective police investigative tools contributed to the lack of prosecutions of high-level corruption cases." In other words, the Czech government changed last year from a ČSSD-led coalition to an ODS-led version, but the rules of the game stayed the same. The new government, it seems, made it even easier for corrupt officials by disbanding "the well-regarded financial police as part of Minister Langer's police-reform efforts." How nice it would be if the 2008 report could state that "PM Mirek Topolánek identified corruption as a major problem and made significant progress toward eradicating it."



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