

Blaming the foreigner



Blaming the foreigner is one of the obvious reactions to an economic crisis, and this theme seems to play a role in Toyota's recall problems in the USA. Toyota isn't facing much pressure in the CR so far, but there have been intermittent tendencies to blame foreign investors for importing foreign workers, spreading disease and violating Czech social norms. Pres. Jaroslav Míl of the Confederation of Industry told [LN](#) that it was stupid to give incentives to Hyundai to put up an assembly plant, instead of pushing it to build a full production and development center. What Míl failed to mention, though, was the likelihood that Hyundai would have gone elsewhere. The real mistake, it seems, was to offer hefty incentives to dozens of parts suppliers who would have followed Hyundai, Toyota and other top-level manufacturers to the CR anyway. The blame for this misstep goes to Czechs, not to the "damn foreigners."

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