

What's Schwarzenberg's game?

The Senate confirmation of the U.S. ambassador-designate to the CR, Norman Eisen, is being held up because Sen. Charles Grassley objected to Eisen's role in the firing of a semi-government official who took action against a friend of Barack Obama's. To describe Eisen's behavior, Grassley used some truly tough language in [Congress](#) ("lack of candor," "misrepresentations"), as well as in his [Joint Staff Report](#) on the issue ("Eisen's claims are not credible"), but nowhere did Grassley state bluntly that Eisen might have broken the law. Neither did the Czech press. Yet Foreign Minister Karel Schwarzenberg said in Washington yesterday that "whether [Eisen] violated U.S. laws, whether he told the truth or not, is an internal American matter." Schwarzenberg might be admired at times for his undiplomatic language, but such a gratuitous remark about the ambassador-designate of a major ally suggests that he either isn't reading his briefs closely enough, or that he has some kind of hidden agenda the country needs to know about.

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