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Discouraging dissent



A recent coalition document vowed to support whistleblowers, but there was a typo. It clearly meant to say "suppress." The way Libor Michálek is being turned into the villain for reporting corruption at the environment ministry is so blatantly misguided that only a few rare individuals, such as Václav Klaus, seem to accept the government line. As the cracks in the system grow larger and larger, the methods used for defending it become increasingly desperate. But the Czechs are in good company. Remember the way Angela Merkel condemned Thilo Sarrazin for his critical book on immigration and welfare, without ever reading it? Or how some U.S. politicians are calling for Julian Assange to be assassinated? The CR, Germany or U.S. are not violent regimes in the normal sense of the word, but the methods they use for dealing with dissent are at times less honest than those used by China, Burma or N. Korea.



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