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## Defective democracy

Chief Justice Pavel Rychetský of the Constitutional Court stated last Fri. in [HN](#) that he's a proponent of European integration because external pressure can help eliminate corruption in the CR. He returned to it last night on [Hyde Park](#) but admitted that he's losing his optimism, because the CR is heading toward a Berlusconi-like defective democracy and not toward a functioning democracy. He failed to accept any of the blame for this himself, although he's been a key political player for 20 years. Instead of eliminating institutional corruption, the EU integration Rychetský so yearns for has actually served to feed it and legitimize it. Václav Dolejší argued persuasively in MFD that EU funds are destroying municipal Czech politics by turning it into a money grab. Yet the EU sits back and does little. It's all part of the [globalization of corruption](#). Rychetský has been one of its purveyors, whether he realizes it or not.

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