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Self-destructive governments



Chief Justice Pavel Rychetský of the Constitutional Court explained on Czech TV's [OVM](#) show yesterday that the institution of the constitutional court was recreated after WWII as a reaction to the Holocaust. The classic parliamentary democracy of the Weimar Republic hadn't been able to defend against itself and even created mechanisms of self-destruction, he said. In an interview in [LN](#), Deputy Chief Justice Eliška Wagnerová compared Finance Minister Miroslav Kalousek's use of a special tax on construction-savings accounts (instead of simply reducing the subsidy) to the practices of the Nazis. That comparison is a bit strong, she later admitted, but the point was valid. It's also valid to ask whether the Constitutional Court, as the last bastion of democracy, has done enough to stop the spending and pro-corruption policies of the various Czech governments, which in their own way are also self-destructive.

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