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The Klaus era



If any other Czech politician had given the [National Day address](#), he or she would have been praised for trying to unify the nation at a time of rising economic and social tension. But it was Václav Klaus, and he met with the expected criticism. MEP Richard Falbr said Klaus wants us to respect other people's opinions but is himself the one who pigeonholes everybody. In our view, it's important to read the National Day speech in the context of Klaus's interview in [Právo](#) in Aug., in which he warned of an "absolute collision" in the world. Both times, he indirectly made the case for why he should be in charge when the world changes. He said on Fri. that the CR is enjoying its longest period of freedom, relative calm and non-catastrophic development in its short history, longer than the 20-year Masaryk and Beneš era. The message was that if we listen to his sage advice, the unuttered "Klaus era" can continue.

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