## No. 3494 the fleet sheet's final word

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## China, PPF and Czech foreign policy



Before he joined the foreign ministry, Petr Drulák wrote in a book on foreign policy that the economic elite in today's world act as an oligarchy promoting private interests over those of the public. This oligarchy represents a decline in legitimate power, he argued, and he added that servicing oligarchs has become the purpose of Czech politics. Not a hint of this frame of reference was present in Foreign Minister Lubomír Zaorálek's speech to Czech ambassadors yesterday. Never did he say that Czech policy towards China and Russia is dictated by the interests of PPF. He did, though, point to the troubles now faced by the BRICS countries, of which China and Russia are two. As we witness a meltdown in China, isn't it time to ask to what degree it was wise to adopt a foreign policy based largely on the private interests of a few oligarchs? Drulák might have been sidelined at the ministry, but his message in this vein is as valid as ever.

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