

Missile-defense circus



Before the elections, Donald Trump said his administration would pursue state-of-the-art missile defense. In a dramatic report on [Nov. 10](#), Czech TV gave the impression of obtaining a fresh interview with Rudy Giuliani, in which he said that, "We will once again have nuclear defense for Poland and the Czech Republic." Three days later, on [Nov. 13](#), OVM devoted seven minutes to the issue and put a Nov. 10 date on Giuliani's comment. Bohuslav Sobotka reacted emphatically and said that a missile-defense shield in the CR is science fiction that will never happen. On [Nov. 27](#), OVM returned to the issue and put a Nov. 11 date on Giuliani's comment. Defense Min. Martin Stropnický finally had the good sense to say diplomatically that Giuliani was talking nonsense, because the missile-defense shield had already been set up in Romania and Poland (which Sobotka failed to mention). Giuliani's original comment, as [Michal Kubal of ČT revealed](#), was actually made weeks before the Nov. 8 election. It was just pre-election verbiage by Giuliani, but it sure made for good media hype on Czech TV.

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