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Dealing in migration quotas

Hungary and Poland are the closest things the EU has to pariah states. They are regularly singled out for harsh criticism, so it was a slap in the face for the EU Commission to lump the Czechs in yesterday with the Hungarians and Poles in announcing infringement procedures for violating the refugee quotas. It was especially irreverent after the way Jean-Claude Juncker decided last week not to press the quota issue in private talks in Prague (according to Senate Pres. Milan Štěch). Or after [Der Spiegel](#) avoided mentioning the Czechs in the same breath as the two usual suspects. Yet all is not bad in Prague. Czech politicians had a field day yesterday hitting back at the EU. Even the pro-EU parties joined the EU-bashing. Think about it, if you were one of these pro-EU parties, wouldn't you try to strike a deal with the EU Commission? We'll pretend until after the parliamentary elections that we're against these very unpopular quotas, and then we'll get into line. But to make this happen, the Commission must throw its weight at the right moment behind the pro-EU, anti-Babiš coalition. Deal? Deal.

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