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Free passage for French troops



Emmanuel Macron is expected to speak in Prague today mainly about ammunition for Kyiv and a nuclear-power deal for EDF, but he's also likely to be asked for an explanation of his remark about not ruling out sending troops to Ukraine. [Ex-French Foreign Min. Hubert Védrine](#) said on Sun. that the comment must be seen in the context of a possible collapse of the Ukrainian army and that Macron's intent was perhaps in part to accelerate a re-engagement of the U.S. The question today for Macron, then, could be what happens if the U.S. doesn't re-engage. PM Petr Fiala has said that the [CR won't send troops](#), but he hasn't said anything about whether Czechs would help those who do. His government's [Defense Strategy](#) emphasises the importance of the CR as a transit country for allied forces in the event of an increased threat. If France decided to send troops to Ukraine, there would only be a few possible routes for getting them there. Are the Czechs prepared to give the French free passage?

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