Contemporary Politics and Debates

Contemporary politics in the Czech Republic are a lot related to its relations with the European Union and within the [Visegrad Group (V4)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visegr%C3%A1d_Group), and the country confronts the same issues than its neighbor countries; the hottest at the moment being the integration of immigrants from Muslim countries and the refugees crisis, that have been adding up to social issues that the EU has been facing since the economic crisis of 2008, and that is generating a general trend towards populism, conservatism, and the rise of radical right-wing parties in all countries, especially in Central and Eastern Europe with big players like Poland and Hungary.

**Readings**

- Cábelková, Inna; Mitsche, Nicole; Strielkowki, Wadim, [*Attitudes towards EU integration and Euro adoption in the Czech Republic*](https://search.proquest.com/docview/1717432444/fulltext/DCBAF921B44B44B0PQ/1?accountid=119841) (full text online on ProQuest via NTK)

- Lenka Bustikova, Petra Guasti, [*The Illiberal Turn or Swerve in Central Europe?*](https://search.proquest.com/docview/2001911516?pq-origsite=summon) (full text online on ProQuest via NTK)

- [*Impact of the European Court of Human Rights on the Rule of Law in Central and Eastern Europe*](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40803-018-0074-5) (full text online on Springer via NTK)

- Valentin Naumescu, [*The Clash of Discourses Regarding Relations with Russia: New Fault Lines in the European Union?*](https://search.proquest.com/docview/1989174952?pq-origsite=summon) (full text on ProQuest via NTK)

- Articles from the Czech institute Europeum <http://www.europeum.org/en/articles/?type=clanky-a-publikace> (all very recent from 2018). Those publications are the best to follow the very current trends in European questions, debates, policies. See for example:

* [*New CENS publication: Policy Paper on regional cooperation in Central and South Eastern Europe*](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cmarinec%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5CXPgrpwise%5C5B2A3FB8NTKDOMPO110016F797217F7E1%5CNew%20CENS%20publication%3A%20Policy%20Paper%20on%20regional%20cooperation%20in%20Central%20and%20South%20Eastern%20Europe)
* [*Enlargement to the Western Balkans: Finally Ready to Commit?*](http://www.europeum.org/data/articles/eastern-monitor-juzova.pdf)
* [*Hungary, Poland: the difficult choices ahead for the European Union*](http://www.europeum.org/data/articles/policy-paper.pdf)
* [*Visegrad Countries: How can Europe repair breaches of the rule of law?*](http://www.europeum.org/data/articles/visegradcountriesbreachesoftheruleoflaw-michelot-march18.pdf)
* [*The discreet charm of hypocrisy: An EU-Turkey Power Audit*](http://www.europeum.org/data/articles/eu-turkey-power-audit.pdf)

(...and many more on their website if you are interested)

**Video**- [Why did Czechoslovakia split up?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JojFY6BHdTo) (in Slovak with English subtitles) Maybe the only peaceful breakup that has existed until now in History!