



ČT PODROBNÁ ANALÝZA

20260224_CT24 Special - ctyri roky valky na Ukrajine.cs

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Version 3.0-detail | Universal 3.0-detail | Konverter 3.4 (2026-05-20) | Standard: §2 Zákona o ČT / §31 Zákona č. 231/2001

OVERALL SCORE

6.4/10

Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation

0 = balanced, 10 = strongly biased/manipulative

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Classification based on Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) 2024

The Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES 2024) is an academic survey of 609 political scientists in 31 countries. Each party is rated on a scale from 0 (far left) to 10 (far right).

| Party | Piráti | STAN | KDU-ČSL | ANO | TOP 09 | ODS | Motoristé | SPD |
|----------|--------|--------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| CHES | 2.50 | 4.50 | 5.50 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 7.00 | 7.50 | 8.50 |
| Spectrum | Left | Center | Center | Center-Right | Center-Right | Right | Right | Right |

The overall tendency is presented on a 0–10 scale (0 = strongly left-favoring, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly right-favoring). The calculation is based on the difference in average favoritism of left vs. right parties (grouping per CHES 2024).

TENDENCY (L – R)

3.2 / 10

Left-favoring

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — chesdata.eu | [Jolly et al., Electoral Studies, 2022](#) | Thresholds: [Pew Research Center](#)

This section provides political context and does not contribute to the overall score.



POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

The current Czech government is a coalition led by the ANO 2011 movement (80 seats, 35.0%) under Prime Minister Andrej Babiš, complemented by SPD (15 seats, 6.2%) and Motoristé sobě/AUTO (13 seats, 5.5%). The opposition consists of ODS (27 seats), STAN (22 seats), Piráti (18 seats), KDU-ČSL (16 seats) and TOP 09 (9 seats). Stačilo!/KSČM, SOCDEM and Přísaha remain outside parliament.

| Party | CHES L-R | Seats | Gov/Opp | Key position |
|-----------|----------|-------|------------|------------------------------|
| Piráti | 2.5 | 18 | Opposition | Left, pro-EU, digital rights |
| STAN | 4.5 | 22 | Opposition | Centre, liberal, pro-EU |
| KDU-ČSL | 5.5 | 16 | Opposition | Centre, Christian democracy |
| TOP 09 | 6.0 | 9 | Opposition | Centre-right, pro-EU |
| ANO | 6.0 | 80 | Government | Centre-populism, Babiš |
| ODS | 7.0 | 27 | Opposition | Right, conservative |
| Motoristé | 7.5 | 13 | Government | Right, Eurosceptic |
| SPD | 8.5 | 15 | Government | Far right, anti-immigration |

The dominant issue is the new Andrej Babiš government's stance on the war in Ukraine: the ANO–SPD–Motoristé coalition signals a considerably more restrained approach to military and financial support for Kyiv than the previous Petr Fiala government. Tensions also exist regarding the relationship with the EU and NATO, where SPD and parts of ANO hold Eurosceptic and less Atlanticist positions. Further lines of conflict include migration policy, the independence of public media and democratic standards in the context of Babiš's legal cases.

Czech Television is a public service broadcaster established by Act No. 483/1991 Coll. and is required under §2(2) to provide objective, verified, overall balanced and comprehensive information enabling the free formation of opinions. Act No. 231/2001 Coll. in §31 imposes the obligation to ensure the objectivity and balance of informational content, to separate evaluative commentary from news reporting and, on politically controversial topics, to ensure balanced representation of opposing views. It is precisely in the context of political pressure from the new governing coalition on public media that compliance with these obligations is subject to heightened public scrutiny.



CHAPTER 1 — PARTY BIAS

| Party | Score (-5..+5) | Portrayal in programme vs. programmatic position |
|-----------|----------------|---|
| ANO | -3 | 23:51 "the government does not have the war in its programme declaration" — ANO's programmatic position: sovereign foreign policy, restraint towards military engagement — portrayal: indirect criticism through the presenter's question (05:37 "if the government has significantly curtailed our aid") and reporting on the absence of ministers at the Senate; ANO's position is neither explained nor represented by its own voice — distorted/omitted |
| ODS | 0 | The party does not appear in or is not mentioned in the programme — not present |
| STAN | 0 | The party does not appear in or is not mentioned in the programme — not present |
| Piráti | 0 | The party does not appear in or is not mentioned in the programme — not present |
| KDU-ČSL | 0 | The party does not appear in or is not mentioned in the programme — not present |
| TOP 09 | 0 | The party does not appear in or is not mentioned in the programme — not present |
| SPD | -2 | The party is not directly mentioned, but the coalition as a whole is implicitly criticised for curtailing aid to Ukraine; SPD's programmatic position (opposition to military engagement, scepticism towards Ukraine) is not explained — omitted |
| Motoristé | -1 | Foreign Minister Petr Macinka (Motoristé) mentioned at 24:02 as having sent apologies for the Senate debate; his position is not explained — omitted/distorted |

Summary of party bias

- Most accurate portrayal: No party is portrayed accurately; the least distorted are those parties that do not appear in the programme at all (ODS, STAN, Piráti, KDU-ČSL, TOP 09 — score 0).
- Strongest distortion: ANO (score -3) — the government's position is repeatedly implicitly criticised without being given space to express itself.
- Average deviation from 0: 0.75
- Conclusion: The programme is devoted exclusively to the pro-Ukrainian narrative and assigns the governing coalition (ANO, SPD, Motoristé) the role of a passive or negative actor without direct representation. The absence of any government representative as a guest and repeated implicit criticisms of government policy (05:37, 06:17, 19:42) without counterbalance constitute a structural bias in favour of the opposition and pro-Ukrainian perspective.

Overall tendency on the left-right axis

TENDENCY SCORE: +1.8

CLASSIFICATION: Slightly tilted towards the left/pro-EU spectrum

Rationale: The programme systematically presents the pro-Ukrainian and pro-European view as self-evident consensus, while the governing coalition (right-wing populist, more Eurosceptic) is portrayed as a problematic actor curtailing aid. Both guests and reporters hold positions close to the opposition and pro-Atlanticist spectrum. No voice representing the governing coalition or an alternative view on the war and aid to Ukraine is present.



CHAPTER 2 — PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

Programme details

- Title: ČT news programme (likely ČT24 — special broadcast on the fourth anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine)
- Date: 24 February 2025 (from context: "fourth anniversary of the start of the war")
- Presenter/Reporters: Presenter (name not given in transcript); reporters Jakub Kuš, Adam Křivánek, Karel Rychlý, Matyáš Bubeník, Barbora Zlatohlávková

| Actors | Role | Party/Affiliation | Political spectrum |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tomáš Pojar | Pro-rector of CEVRO University, former national security adviser | Independent/close to ODS | Centre-right, Atlanticist |
| Jan Jireš | Defence expert | Independent/academic | Centre, pro-Atlanticist |
| Zdeněk Zajíček | President of the Czech Chamber of Commerce | Independent/business | Centre |
| Volodymyr Zelenskyj | President of Ukraine | Ukrainian government | Pro-European, pro-Atlanticist |
| Miloš Vystrčil | Senate President | ODS | Right/opposition |
| Vasil Zvarič | Ukrainian Ambassador to the Czech Republic | Ukrainian diplomacy | Pro-European |

Main topic

The fourth anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine — a stocktaking of aid, the transformation of the conduct of the war, and the current political context of support for Kyiv.



CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS

Hard Facts — 9 techniques that are countable and scientifically verifiable

1. SELECTION OF EXPERTS

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Expert 1: Tomáš Pojar — Pro-rector of CEVRO University, former national security adviser

Timestamp: 05:47

Statement: "We squandered this opportunity, unless we change our position."

Classification: Pojar has long been associated with the conservative-Atlanticist spectrum, close to ODS. CEVRO University is a private institution with a conservative orientation. His position is consistently pro-Ukrainian and critical of the ANO government.

Missing counter-voice: An expert holding the position that restraint towards support for Ukraine may have legitimate security or economic reasons.

Source assessment — in-depth check:

(a) FUNDING: CEVRO University is a private institution with a conservative orientation; Pojar served in the previous ODS-coalition government. Potential interest in criticising the ANO government.

(b) MANDATE: Security advisory work is relevant to the topic; pro-rector of a private university is not a neutral state institution.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — proximity to ODS and the previous government; criticism of ANO is structurally motivated

D2 Personal risk: +1 — publicly expressing criticism of the government carries some risk

D3 Professional competence: +2 — security advisory work is appropriate to the topic

D4 Consistency of views: +1 — position has been consistently held over time

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — combination of data and value judgements

D6 Source level: +1 — secondary source with direct experience

TOTAL: +4 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE: Pojar is framed in the programme as a neutral security expert, despite his position being structurally close to the opposition and critical of the government. This fact is not communicated to the viewer.

Expert 2: Jan Jireš — defence expert

Timestamp: 06:42

Statement: "To a large extent Europe managed it, your figures demonstrated that."

Classification: Jireš is an academic expert on security and defence. His institutional affiliation is not specified in the programme.

Missing counter-voice: An expert with a different assessment of Europe's ability to replace American support or with a critique of escalation risks.

Source assessment — in-depth check:



(a) **FUNDING:** Institutional background is not stated in the programme — conflict of interest cannot be verified.

(b) **MANDATE:** Defence analysis is appropriate to the topic.

D1 Conflict of interest: 0 — cannot be verified without knowledge of the institution

D2 Personal risk: +1 — public statement

D3 Professional competence: +2 — defence analysis is appropriate to the topic

D4 Consistency of views: 0 — cannot be verified

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 — predominantly analytical approach

D6 Source level: +1 — secondary source with expertise

TOTAL: +5 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: GREEN

(c) **PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE:** Jireš is presented as a neutral expert; his institutional background is not communicated to the viewer, making it impossible to assess any potential conflict of interest.

Expert 3: Zdeněk Zajíček — President of the Czech Chamber of Commerce

Timestamp: 21:45

Statement: "Refugees and workers from Ukraine play a key role in our labour market."

Classification: The Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of businesses that have a direct economic interest in the availability of cheap labour from Ukraine. Zajíček also welcomes the Babiš government's decision on long-term residence for Ukrainians — this is therefore an exceptional case in which a government decision is praised.

Missing counter-voice: A representative of trade unions or workers who may be negatively affected by competition from cheap foreign labour.

Source assessment — in-depth check:

(a) **FUNDING:** The Chamber of Commerce is funded by membership contributions from businesses — structural interest in the availability of labour.

(b) **MANDATE:** The Chamber represents employers, not employees or the public interest.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — direct economic interest in the availability of cheap labour

D2 Personal risk: 0 — neutral

D3 Professional competence: +1 — the labour market is a relevant area

D4 Consistency of views: +1 — consistent position of employers

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — combination

D6 Source level: 0 — secondary source

TOTAL: 0 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) **PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE:** Zajíček is presented as a neutral voice on the labour market, despite representing employers with a structural interest in the outcome.

Missing groups of experts:

- Independent economist or auditor for critical analysis of the calculation of "profit" from aid to Ukraine
- Security analyst with a differing view on escalation risks
- Representative of trade unions or workers on the topic of the labour market

Source Credibility Overview:

| Source | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | D5 | D6 | Total | Signal |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|--------|
| Tomáš Pojar — Pro-rector of CEVRO University, former national security adviser | -1 | +1 | +2 | +1 | 0 | +1 | +4 | YELLOW |
| Jan Jireš — defence expert | 0 | +1 | +2 | 0 | +1 | +1 | +5 | GREEN |



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| | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|---------------|
| Zdeněk Zajíček — President of the Czech Chamber of Commerce | -2 | 0 | +1 | +1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | YELLOW |
|---|----|---|----|----|---|---|---|---------------|

Summary (matrix result):

- Pojar: YELLOW — structural proximity to the opposition, presented as neutral
- Jireš: GREEN — expertise is appropriate, institutional background not specified
- Zajíček: YELLOW — structural conflict of interest as an employer representative, presented as a neutral market voice



2. SELECTION OF SOURCES

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Claims without primary source = penalty points (rumour check)

Source 1: Statements by Petr Fiala (outgoing Prime Minister) on expenditure on aid to Ukraine

Timestamp: 03:25

Statement: "These are specifically figures published by Petr Fiala in November as outgoing Prime Minister, stating that total expenditure on aid to Ukraine exceeded 90 billion CZK."

(a) Funding and founding body: Petr Fiala is the chairman of ODS and was Prime Minister of the coalition that actively promoted aid to Ukraine — direct political interest in a positive assessment of the results.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: Fiala has an interest in presenting aid to Ukraine as a success and an economically advantageous policy.

(c) A source that would independently verify or challenge these figures is absent.

Missing counter-source: An independent economic analysis or the SAO (Supreme Audit Office).

Source 2: Data from insurance companies and the Ministry of Social Affairs

Timestamp: 03:45

Statement: "when we look at data from insurance companies and the Ministry of Social Affairs, we find that the Czech Republic received 79 billion from Ukrainians living here in insurance contributions alone."

(a) Funding: State institutions — relevant, but the calculation methodology is not explained.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: The Ministry of Social Affairs may have an interest in presenting migration as economically beneficial.

(c) Methodological explanation and independent verification are absent.

Source 3: Speech by Volodymyr Zelenskyy in the European Parliament

Timestamp: 26:50–35:27

Statement: Zelenskyy's entire speech is broadcast without commentary, without counterbalance and without critical analysis.

(a) Funding: Zelenskyy is the president of a country at war with a direct interest in maximising European support.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: Zelenskyy has an interest in mobilising European support — his speech is a political address, not neutral information.

(c) Any commentary, analysis or counter-perspective on Zelenskyy's statements is absent.

Missing counter-source: Analytical commentary on the speech, reactions from sceptics or neutral diplomats.

Rumour check (penalty points):

Rumour 1:

Timestamp: 19:42

Claim: "I was told this quite unequivocally, because in view of the Czech government's stance they will simply give and will enable the transfer of the most sophisticated technologies to countries that fully cooperate with Ukraine"

Verbal marker: "I was told" — anonymous source without verification



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Primary source: NO — penalty point +1

Summary: The selection of sources is heavily one-sided — sources with a direct interest in the pro-Ukrainian narrative dominate (Fiala/ODS, Zelenskyj, the Chamber of Commerce). Independent or critical sources are entirely absent. Zelenskyj's speech is broadcast without any analytical counterbalance.

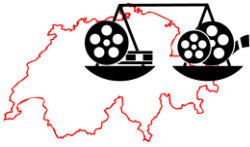


| 3. TIME ALLOCATION | | | | | | | 7/10 | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|---|----|
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Estimated speaking time:

- Zelenskyj (speech): approx. 9 min. (25%)
- Tomáš Pojar: approx. 4 min. (11%)
- Jan Jireš: approx. 4 min. (11%)
- Reporters (Kuš, Křivánek, Zlatohlávková, Bubeník, Rychlý): approx. 10 min. (28%)
- Presenter: approx. 4 min. (11%)
- Zdeněk Zajčcek: approx. 2 min. (6%)
- Miloš Vystrčil / Vasil Zvarič (citations): approx. 2 min. (6%)
- Governing coalition (ANO/SPD/Motoristé): 0 min. (0%)
- Alternative view on the war: 0 min. (0%)

Summary: The governing coalition, which is repeatedly implicitly criticised in the programme, was given no time to speak. Zelenskyj, as the president of a party to the conflict, receives a quarter of the total broadcast time without any counterbalance. This allocation is fundamentally unbalanced.



4. SELECTIVE OMISSION

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Omission 1:

Context

Any explanation of the Czech governing coalition's position on support for Ukraine is absent.

Relevant at: 05:37 — "if the government has significantly curtailed our aid"

Effect

The viewer gains the impression that the government's restraint is irrational or harmful without knowing the government's arguments.

Omission 2:

Context

The calculation of "profit" from aid to Ukraine (04:14) contains no methodological explanation or warning about its contested nature.

Relevant at: 04:14 — "the Czech Republic is in the black by 12.7 billion CZK"

Effect

The viewer accepts as fact a figure that is the result of selective item selection and whose methodology is open to challenge.

Omission 3:

Context

Zelenskyj's speech (26:50–35:27) contains a number of political appeals and value judgements that are not commented upon or analysed in any way.

Relevant at: 31:38 — "we will send our strikes into Russia as well"

Effect

The call for strikes on Russian territory is broadcast without any commentary on escalation risks.

Summary: The systematic omission of the government's perspective, critical analysis of economic data and commentary on Zelenskyj's escalatory statements creates a fundamentally distorted picture of reality.

Missing Voices

- Representative of the Czech governing coalition (ANO/SPD/Motoristé): Would have provided an explanation of the reasons for restraint towards support for Ukraine and the government's foreign policy vision.
- Independent economist: Would have provided a critical analysis of the methodology of the calculation of "profit" from aid to Ukraine (04:14).
- Advocate of peace negotiations / diplomat: Would have provided a perspective on a diplomatic solution to the conflict.
- Representative of Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic: Would have provided a direct perspective on their situation, concerns and plans.
- Security analyst with a differing view on escalation risks: Would have provided an analysis of the risks of continued military support.
- Representative of Global South countries or neutral states: Would have provided an international perspective outside the Euro-Atlantic consensus.



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- Sociologist or political scientist studying the Czech public: Would have provided data on Czech public opinion regarding support for Ukraine.
- Critical economist or aid auditor: Would have provided an analysis of the effectiveness and transparency of funds expended.



5. MANIPULATION WITH NUMBERS

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Complete figures include: absolute value, proportion (%) and trend

Finding 1:

Timestamp 04:14

Figure: "the Czech Republic is in the black by 12.7 billion CZK"

Dimension: (a) absolute value — stated; (b) share — not stated (12.7 bn out of total expenditure of 90 bn = 14% "profit"); (c) trend — not stated

Missing context

The calculation adds insurance revenue from Ukrainians (79 bn) and compensation for military equipment (25 bn) and subtracts expenditure (90 bn). The methodology is contested: insurance revenue would have existed even without the war (labour migration), compensation is conditional and its amount has not been verified by an independent source.

Effect

The viewer gains the impression that aid to Ukraine is economically advantageous for the Czech Republic — without any warning about the contested nature of the methodology.

Finding 2:

Timestamp 02:39

Figure: "European aid then increased by approximately 59%"

Dimension: (a) absolute value — not stated for 2024; (b) share — not stated; (c) trend — stated selectively (only the increase, not an absolute comparison with American deliveries)

Missing context

It is not stated whether the 59% European increase fully compensates for the American shortfall in absolute figures.

Effect

The viewer gains the impression that Europe fully replaced the American shortfall, whereas Jan Jireš immediately states the opposite (06:42).

Finding 3:

Timestamp 21:07

Figure: "their number has grown by 55% since the start of the war"

Dimension: (a) absolute value — stated (3,000 Ukrainians in healthcare); (b) share — not stated (3,000 out of 251,000 = 1.2%); (c) trend — stated

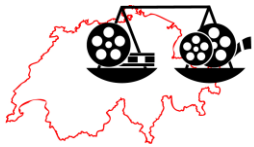
Missing context

The absolute share of Ukrainians in healthcare (1.2%) is marginal, despite the percentage increase (55%) appearing dramatic.

Effect

The viewer overestimates the role of Ukrainians in healthcare.

Summary: Figures are repeatedly presented without methodological context and in a manner that systematically supports the pro-Ukrainian narrative. The most serious is the calculation of "profit" from aid to Ukraine, which is presented as fact without any warning about its contested nature.



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6. CONTACT GUILT

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Association 1:

Timestamp

28:32

Quote

"He is war and whoever supports Putin must understand that by doing so they are choosing war."

Technique: Zelenskyj creates a binary framework: support for Putin = choosing war. This statement is broadcast without commentary.

Effect

Implicitly discredits anyone who holds a less confrontational position towards Russia as a proponent of war.

Association 2:

Timestamp

25:08

Quote

"Russia is allegedly the aggressor and if Putin wanted it, peace could come tomorrow"

Technique: Miloš Vystrčil's statement is cited as a declaration, with the word "allegedly" used by the reporter — but in a context that confirms rather than challenges this declaration.

Effect

Frames the conflict as unambiguously one-sided without any nuance.

Summary: The direct technique of guilt by association is not dominant, but the binary framing of the conflict (support for Putin = choosing war) creates an implicit association that discredits alternative positions without substantively challenging them.



7. TIMING

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Finding 1:

Position: 00:05 (beginning)

Content: Opening summary: "hundreds of thousands of casualties", "deprived millions of their homes", "the war fundamentally transformed the security situation"

Timing effect: Emotional framing at the beginning of the programme sets the interpretive framework for everything that follows — the viewer is placed in a state of empathy and moral obligation before any analytical content is presented.

Finding 2:

Position: 26:50–35:27 (middle/end)

Content: Zelenskyj's speech in the European Parliament — the longest and most emotional part of the programme

Timing effect: The speech is positioned as the culmination of the programme, thereby gaining the greatest emotional weight. No analytical counterbalance follows — the programme effectively ends with Zelenskyj's appeals.

Finding 3:

Position: 04:14 (before guests)

Content: "the Czech Republic is in the black by 12.7 billion CZK"

Timing effect: The contested calculation of "profit" is presented before the interview with guests, thereby setting the interpretive framework for the entire discussion of government policy.

Summary: Timing is strategically used for emotional framing at the beginning and to maximise the impact of Zelenskyj's speech at the end, while analytical and critical elements are marginalised or entirely absent.



8. SELECTIVE OUTRAGE

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Outrage = bias. Selective outrage amplifies the finding. Score = outrage level (0–5) + selectivity (0–5)

Methodological principle (v2.2): Before each assessment, the triggering event must be documented. A reaction can only be assessed as selective if comparable triggers from other positions did not elicit an analogous reaction.

Finding 1:

Timestamp 23:51

Triggering event: Prime Minister Babiš stated that the government does not have the war in its programme declaration.

Reaction: Reporter Karel Rychlý presents this information in a context that implicitly evaluates it as problematic (the absence of ministers at the Senate debate on the anniversary of the war).

Comparison

Zelenskyj's call for strikes on Russia (31:38) — reaction: none, the statement is broadcast without commentary.

Asymmetry: The government's restraint is implicitly criticised, while Zelenskyj's escalatory appeals are not commented upon. Asymmetry established.

Degree of outrage: 2/5

Selectivity: 3/5

Finding 2:

Timestamp 06:17

Triggering event: Pojar states that the Czech government "squandered the opportunity" and that Ukraine refuses to transfer technologies to the Czech Republic due to government policy.

Reaction: The presenter accepts this criticism without challenge or request for a statement from the government side.

Comparison

No analogous criticism of pro-Ukrainian actors is present in the programme.

Asymmetry: Criticism of the governing coalition is accepted without counterbalance. Asymmetry established.

Degree of outrage: 2/5

Selectivity: 3/5

Summary: Selective outrage is not the dominant technique in this programme, but it is present in the asymmetric acceptance of criticism of the governing coalition without analogous criticism of pro-Ukrainian actors.



| 9. SELECTIVE OMISSION — OVERALL PICTURE | | | | | | | | 8/10 | |
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Finding 1:

Timestamp 05:37

Missing perspective/fact: The reasons of the governing coalition for restraint towards support for Ukraine

Relevance: The governing coalition represents 53.7% of voters and its position is key to understanding the current political situation.

Impact

The viewer perceives government policy as irrational or harmful without knowledge of the government's arguments.

Finding 2:

Timestamp 31:38

Missing perspective/fact: Commentary on Zelenskyj's escalatory statements ("we will send our strikes into Russia as well")

Relevance: A call for strikes on Russian territory is a politically and security-wise fundamental statement that requires analytical commentary.

Impact

The viewer accepts escalatory appeals as self-evident without awareness of their gravity.

Finding 3:

Timestamp 04:14

Missing perspective/fact: Methodological critique of the calculation of "profit" from aid to Ukraine

Relevance: The calculation is methodologically contested and its presentation as fact is misleading.

Impact

The viewer accepts as an established fact a figure that is the result of selective item selection.

Summary: The programme systematically omits perspectives, facts and actors that would disrupt the pro-Ukrainian narrative. This selectivity is consistent throughout the entire programme and cannot be regarded as incidental.

End of hard facts — beginning of soft facts

The war in Ukraine has been ongoing since 24 February 2022 and is the subject of fundamental political dispute across Europe and in the Czech Republic. There are two main positions: the first advocates maximum support for Ukraine as a defence of European security and democratic values; the second emphasises the need for a diplomatic solution, the risks of escalation and the economic costs for one's own country. In the Czech Republic, this dividing line shifted with the arrival of Andrej Babiš's government, which signals a more restrained approach. Internationally, the key factor is the return of Donald Trump to the White House and uncertainty regarding American support for Kyiv.

Share of covered perspectives

Inverted: original value measures coverage (higher = better). Shown as deviation (higher = larger gaps).

President: Schlaepfer, David - **Contact:** kontakt@SVFAB.ch - **Address:** SVFAB, P/O-Box, CH-8021 Zurich 1



- [A] The view of the Czech governing coalition (ANO/SPD/Motoristé) on the reasons for curtailing aid to Ukraine
- [B] The view of advocates of a diplomatic solution and peace negotiations
- [C] An economic analysis of the costs and benefits of aid to Ukraine from an independent source
- [D] The view of Czech citizens sceptical of continued support
- [E] A Russian or neutral perspective on the causes and course of the conflict
- [F] The humanitarian impact of the war on the civilian population of Ukraine
- [G] Escalation risks and nuclear threats
- [H] The perspective of Global South countries on the conflict
- [I] A critical analysis of the effectiveness of aid to date
- [J] The perspective of Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic on their situation and future

[A] OMITTED

Timestamp: 23:51 — Quote: "the government does not have the war in its programme declaration" —
Assessment: The government's position is mentioned only through ministers' apologies; no government representative was given space to explain their stance.

[B] OMITTED

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: No advocate of a diplomatic or peaceful solution was invited; the topic of peace is mentioned only in the context of Zelenskyj's speech.

[C] INDICATED

Timestamp: 02:21 — Quote: "Paradoxically, the Czech Republic is financially rather benefiting from aid to Ukraine." — Assessment: Economic data are presented, but one-sidedly — without an independent critical analysis of the calculation methodology.

[D] OMITTED

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: The perspective of the part of the Czech public sceptical of support for Ukraine is entirely absent.

[E] OMITTED

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: The Russian perspective or a neutral analytical view of the causes of the conflict is entirely absent; Russia is portrayed exclusively as the aggressor.

[F] INDICATED

Timestamp: 00:09 — Quote: "The conflict has since claimed hundreds of thousands of casualties and deprived millions more of their homes." — Assessment: The humanitarian dimension is mentioned in the introduction but is not elaborated upon.

[G] OMITTED

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: Escalation risks, including the nuclear dimension, are not mentioned in the programme at all.

[H] OMITTED

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: The perspective of countries outside the Euro-Atlantic space is entirely absent.

[I] INDICATED

Timestamp: 06:42 — Quote: "the overall level of support, both military and other, towards Ukraine is today slightly lower" — Assessment: The effectiveness of aid is mentioned peripherally, but without critical analysis.



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[J] OMITTED

Timestamp: 20:17 — Quote: "Over 300,000 Ukrainians are employed in the Czech Republic." — Assessment: Ukrainian refugees are portrayed as an economic benefit; their own voice and perspective are entirely absent.

Completeness score: 2/10

Rationale: Of the ten relevant perspectives, three are only indicated and seven are entirely omitted. The programme moves exclusively within a pro-Ukrainian and pro-Atlanticist framework and provides no space for any alternative view on the conflict, Czech government policy or a diplomatic solution. This one-sidedness is systemic, not incidental.



Soft Facts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. SETTING THE FRAME

8/10

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Finding 1:

Timestamp

00:05

Quote

"Today marks four years since Russia launched its open aggression against Ukraine."

Manipulation

The conflict is framed from the very first word as unambiguous aggression by one side — without any historical or geopolitical contextualisation.

Why this is problematic: The viewer is placed in an interpretive framework that excludes any alternative understanding of the causes of the conflict before any facts are presented.

Finding 2:

Timestamp

04:21

Quote

"Paradoxically, the Czech Republic is financially rather benefiting from aid to Ukraine."

Manipulation

A contested calculation is presented as a paradox and a fact, thereby framing it as a surprising revelation confirming the correctness of the pro-Ukrainian policy.

Why this is problematic: Framing as a "paradox" increases the emotional impact and reduces the viewer's critical thinking.

Finding 3:

Timestamp

23:51

Quote

"the government does not have the war in its programme declaration"

Manipulation

The government's position is framed as an absence (the government "does not have" the topic) rather than as an active political choice with its own arguments.

Why this is problematic: Framing as an absence creates an impression of irresponsibility or indifference without explaining the government's logic.

Summary: The entire programme is framed as a commemoration of aggression and solidarity rather than as an analytical perspective on a complex geopolitical situation. This frame is set from the very first word and consistently maintained throughout the broadcast.



| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| 11. CHOICE OF WORDS AND TERMS | | | | | | | | | 6/10 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

Finding 1:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Timestamp | 00:07 |
| Quote | <i>"Russia launched open aggression"</i> |
| Manipulation | The word "aggression" is a legal and moral evaluative term, not a neutral description. |

Why this is problematic: A neutral alternative would be: "Russia launched a military operation" or "Russia attacked Ukraine" — whereby "attacked" is also evaluative but less legally laden than "aggression".

Finding 2:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Timestamp | 27:09 |
| Quote | <i>"Moscow brings cruel and ruthless anti-European projects to Europe"</i> |
| Manipulation | Zelenskyj's statement is broadcast without commentary; the words "cruel", "ruthless", "anti-European" are strongly emotionally charged. |

Why this is problematic: The programme adopts the language of the warring party without analytical distance.

Finding 3:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Timestamp | 06:17 |
| Quote | <i>"We squandered this opportunity"</i> |
| Manipulation | Pojar uses the first person plural ("we"), thereby implicitly including the entire Czech society in the assessment of government policy as a mistake. |

Why this is problematic: The presenter does not receive this formulation critically, thereby implicitly confirming it.

Summary: The choice of words in the programme systematically adopts the language of the pro-Ukrainian narrative — both in the presenter's contributions and in the uncritical adoption of statements by guests and Zelenskyj's speech.



| 12. PRESENTER BEHAVIOUR | | | | | | | | | 6/10 |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

Methodological principle (v2.2): Before each assessment, the triggering event must be documented. An intervention can only be assessed as asymmetric if comparable triggers from other guests did not elicit an analogous intervention.

Finding 1:

Timestamp 05:37

Triggering event: The presenter puts a question to Pojar about the consequences of the government's curtailment of aid to Ukraine.

Quote (presenter) *"If the government has significantly curtailed our aid, even though according to available data we are not losing out from support for Ukraine, as was stated a moment ago."*

Comparison The presenter does not put an analogously critical question towards the pro-Ukrainian stance (e.g. "Even though escalation carries risks, as was stated...").

Asymmetry: The presenter presents the contested calculation of "profit" as an established fact and on that basis formulates a criticism of government policy. Asymmetry established.

Finding 2:

Timestamp 08:32

Triggering event: The presenter puts a hypothetical question about Europe's ability to replace American support.

Quote (presenter) *"If Donald Trump were to refuse any weapons deliveries even for payment, would Europe be able to fully replace the potential shortfall?"*

Comparison The presenter does not put an analogously hypothetical question about escalation risks or alternative paths to peace.

Asymmetry: Hypothetical questions are posed exclusively in the direction of "how to support Ukraine more", not "what are the risks or alternatives". Asymmetry established.

Finding 3:

Timestamp 15:37

Quote (presenter) *"A dearly bought experience, I would say."*

Triggering event: The presenter comments on Jireš's statement about Ukraine's wartime experience.

Asymmetry: The presenter expresses a value judgement (empathy with Ukraine) that goes beyond the role of a neutral presenter. An analogous value judgement in favour of an alternative position is absent from the programme. Asymmetry established.



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Summary: The presenter repeatedly oversteps the role of a neutral questioner — formulating questions on the basis of contested assumptions, expressing value judgements and failing to pose critical questions towards the pro-Ukrainian narrative.



13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY

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Asymmetry 1:

To Pojar, 05:37: "If the government has significantly curtailed our aid, even though according to available data we are not losing out from support for Ukraine..." — hard/leading (contains a contested assumption as fact)

To Pojar, 15:39: "What does this imply for us, for the Czech Republic and for the Czech army?" — soft/open

Comparison

Government policy is confronted with a hard leading question; pro-Ukrainian guests receive open questions without a critical assumption.

Asymmetry 2:

To Jireš, 08:32: "If Donald Trump were to refuse any weapons deliveries even for payment, would Europe be able to fully replace the potential shortfall?" — soft/hypothetical (allows the expert to present the pro-Ukrainian view)

To the governing coalition: No question — zero (no government representative was invited)

Comparison

Guests holding a pro-Ukrainian view receive open or hypothetical questions; the governing coalition was given no opportunity to speak.

Summary: Question asymmetry is systemic — pro-Ukrainian guests receive open questions enabling them to present their views, while the governing coalition is not present at all and its position is confronted only through leading assumptions embedded in questions.



14. FALSE BALANCE

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Finding 1:

Timestamp

06:42

Construct: "To a large extent Europe managed it, your figures demonstrated that."

Analysis

The presenter presents as a balanced response a statement that confirms the pro-Ukrainian narrative. Jireš immediately clarifies that support is lower — but this correction is placed within a framework that overall confirms the success of European solidarity.

Summary: False balance is not the dominant technique in this programme — the programme does not even pretend to be balanced. On the contrary, it is an openly one-sided programme that does not need false balance because the alternative perspective is entirely absent.



15. AGENDA SETTING

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Finding 1:

Agenda element set: Support for Ukraine is a self-evident moral obligation.

Timestamp

00:05 — Evidence: "The war fundamentally transformed the security situation across Europe."

Alternative agenda: The question of whether and under what conditions a diplomatic solution is preferable to military support does not make it onto the agenda at all.

Finding 2:

Agenda element set: The Czech Republic should maximise support for Ukraine.

Timestamp

05:47 — Evidence: "We squandered this opportunity, unless we change our position."

Alternative agenda: The question of whether there are legitimate reasons for restraint (economic, security-related, democratic) does not make it onto the agenda.

Finding 3:

Agenda element set: Russia is an unambiguous aggressor without any context.

Timestamp

28:32 — Evidence: "He is war and whoever supports Putin must understand that by doing so they are choosing war."

Alternative agenda: The historical and geopolitical context of the conflict, its causes and prehistory, do not make it onto the agenda.

Summary: The programme's agenda is set such that support for Ukraine is presented as a self-evident moral imperative and any alternative is implicitly excluded. This agenda setting is consistent throughout the entire programme and is the most powerful manipulative technique of this broadcast.



CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL EVALUATION

Overview of individual scores

| No. | Criterion | Type | Score | Key finding (1 sentence) |
|-----|---------------------------|------|-------|--|
| 1 | Selection of experts | H | 7 | All guests hold a pro-Ukrainian view; institutional background is not transparently communicated. |
| 2 | Selection of sources | H | 7 | Sources with a structural interest in the pro-Ukrainian narrative dominate; independent sources are absent. |
| 3 | Time allocation | H | 7 | The governing coalition was given no time; Zelenskyj occupied a quarter of broadcast time. |
| 4 | Omissions | H | 8 | The government perspective, methodological critique of data and commentary on escalatory statements are systematically absent. |
| 5 | Manipulation with numbers | H | 7 | The calculation of "profit" from aid to Ukraine is presented as fact without methodological context. |
| 6 | Guilt by association | H | 3 | Binary framing of the conflict implicitly discredits alternative positions. |
| 7 | Timing | H | 6 | Emotional framing at the beginning and Zelenskyj's speech as culmination maximise one-sided impact. |
| 8 | Selective outrage | H | 5 | Government restraint is implicitly criticised; Zelenskyj's escalatory statements are not commented upon. |
| 9 | Completeness | H | 8 | Seven of the ten relevant perspectives are entirely absent; the programme portrays only the pro-Ukrainian view. |
| 10 | Framing | S | 8 | The entire programme is framed as a commemoration of aggression and solidarity without analytical distance. |
| 11 | Choice of words | S | 6 | The programme adopts the language of the warring party without critical distance. |
| 12 | Presenter behaviour | S | 6 | The presenter repeatedly oversteps the role of a neutral questioner. |
| 13 | Question asymmetry | S | 7 | Pro-Ukrainian guests receive open questions; the governing coalition was not invited. |
| 14 | False balance | S | 2 | The programme does not even pretend to be balanced — the alternative perspective is entirely absent. |
| 15 | Agenda setting | S | 8 | Support for Ukraine is presented as a self-evident moral imperative without alternative. |

Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average of criteria 1–9): 6.6 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average of criteria 10–15): 6.2 / 10

Dominant techniques



1. Agenda setting (score 8): The programme systematically presents support for Ukraine as a self-evident moral imperative and excludes any alternative perspectives from the agenda. This technique is consistent throughout the entire broadcast and creates an interpretive framework in which any restraint towards supporting Kyiv is implicitly irrational or immoral.

2. Omissions (score 8): The governing coalition, which represents a majority of voters, was given no space to express its positions. Methodological critique of economic data and commentary on Zelenskyj's escalatory statements are systematically absent, thereby presenting the viewer with a fundamentally incomplete picture of reality.

3. Framing (score 8): The entire programme is framed as a commemoration of aggression and solidarity from the very first word, with this frame maintained through the choice of words, selection of guests, timing and the uncritical adoption of Zelenskyj's speech. Analytical distance from the topic is entirely absent.

Key messages of the programme

****MESSAGE 1 (CONTENT):** ** "The Czech Republic should maximise support for Ukraine, because it is economically advantageous and morally correct."

Technique: Framing + manipulation with numbers — Evidence: 04:14, 05:47, 06:17

****MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL):** ** "The ANO/SPD/Motoristé governing coalition is harming Czech interests through its restraint towards Ukraine."

Technique: Omissions + question asymmetry — Evidence: 05:37, 19:42, 23:51

****MESSAGE 3 (SOCIAL):** ** "Support for Ukraine is a self-evident part of European identity and democratic values; whoever does not support it stands on the side of the aggressor."

Technique: Agenda setting + guilt by association — Evidence: 28:32, 00:05, 35:10

Rationale: The programme achieves an overall score of 6.4/10, corresponding to the category of clear one-sidedness. The programme systematically presents exclusively the pro-Ukrainian view without any counterbalance, with the governing coalition — representing a majority of voters — given no opportunity to express its positions. This constitutes a violation of §2(2) of Act No. 483/1991 Coll. (obligation of comprehensiveness and balance) and §31(3) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll. (obligation of balanced representation of opposing views on politically controversial topics). Zelenskyj's speech is broadcast as the culmination of the programme without analytical counterbalance, thereby also violating the obligation to separate evaluative commentary from news reporting under §31(2).

CONCLUSION

The analysed ČT programme of 24 February 2025 on the fourth anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine exhibits systemic one-sidedness that is in conflict with the obligations of the public service broadcaster under §2(2) of Act No. 483/1991 Coll. and §31(2) and (3) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll. The programme presents exclusively the pro-Ukrainian and pro-Atlanticist view through its selection of guests, selection of sources, agenda setting and uncritical adoption of Zelenskyj's speech, while the governing coalition — representing a majority of voters — was given no space to express its positions. Economic data are presented without methodological context in a manner that systematically supports one political viewpoint, thereby violating the obligation of objectivity and verifiability of information. Zelenskyj's speech containing calls for strikes on Russian territory is broadcast without any analytical commentary or warning about escalation risks, causing the programme to assume the role of a propaganda instrument for a warring party rather than that of independent public service reporting. The overall score of 6.4/10 and the absence of any alternative perspective give rise to reasonable suspicion of a violation of ČT's statutory obligations in the areas of objectivity, balance and comprehensiveness.



OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

Individual Scores — All 15 Criteria

| No. | Criterion | Score | Rating |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 1 | SELECTION OF EXPERTS | 7/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 2 | SELECTION OF SOURCES | 7/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 3 | TIME ALLOCATION | 7/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 4 | SELECTIVE OMISSION | 8/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 5 | MANIPULATION WITH NUMBERS | 7/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 6 | CONTACT GUILT | 3/10 | <i>Slight imbalance</i> |
| 7 | TIMING | 6/10 | <i>Significant imbalance</i> |
| 8 | SELECTIVE OUTRAGE | 5/10 | <i>Significant imbalance</i> |
| 9 | SELECTIVE OMISSION — OVERALL PICTURE | 8/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 10 | SETTING THE FRAME | 8/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 11 | CHOICE OF WORDS AND TERMS | 6/10 | <i>Significant imbalance</i> |
| 12 | PRESENTER BEHAVIOUR | 6/10 | <i>Significant imbalance</i> |
| 13 | QUESTION ASYMMETRY | 7/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |
| 14 | FALSE BALANCE | 2/10 | <i>Unremarkable</i> |
| 15 | AGENDA SETTING | 8/10 | <i>Pronounced imbalance</i> |

HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

6.6/10

Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation

SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

6.2/10

Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation

OVERALL SCORE

6.4/10

Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation

Average of Hardfacts and Softfacts



KEY — Score Definitions

Individual Scores per Criterion (0–10)

| | | |
|------------|--|--|
| 0 | No finding | No relevant anomaly detected. |
| 1–2 | Weak finding | Minor anomaly without substantial impact on balance. |
| 3–4 | Slight to moderate finding | Recognizable tendency; low to moderate impact relevance. |
| 5 | Moderate finding with impact | Relevant imbalance affecting the audience's opinion-forming potential. |
| 6 | Significant finding (threshold) | Scores of 6 and above are classified as 'significant findings.' |
| 7 | Significant finding | Clear, well-documented imbalance with distinct impact relevance. |
| 8–9 | Severe finding | Pronounced imbalance; multiple documented individual findings in this criterion. |
| 10 | Maximum severity | Systematic, pervasive imbalance in this criterion. |

Aggregated Deviation Index — Interpretation Ranges

| | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| 0.0 – 2.5 | Unremarkable | No significant patterns detected; broadcast meets the impartiality standard. |
| 2.6 – 4.0 | Slight imbalance | Isolated anomalies; statistically visible but within tolerance range. |
| 4.1 – 6.0 | Significant imbalance | Multiple significant findings; relevant impairment of perspective diversity. |
| 6.1 – 8.0 | Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation | Pronounced, cross-broadcast patterns; high impact relevance. |
| 8.1 – 10 | Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high bias degree | Maximum severity across nearly all criteria; systematically one-sided reporting. |

Party-Political Bias (-5 to +5)

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|
| -5 to -3 | Strongly disadvantaged | Party is significantly underrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation. |
| -2 to -1 | Slightly disadvantaged | Recognizable but minor disadvantage. |
| 0 | Neutral | No detectable favoritism or disadvantage. |
| +1 to +2 | Slightly favored | Recognizable but minor favoritism. |
| +3 to +5 | Strongly favored | Party is significantly overrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation. |



CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL CLASSIFICATION (§2 of the ČT Act / §31 of Act No. 231/2001)

Assessment under §2 of the ČT Act / §31 of Act No. 231/2001

The Czech Television Act (No. 483/1991 Coll.) §2(2)(a) requires the provision of objective, verified, overall balanced and comprehensive information for the free formation of opinions. The Act on Radio and Television Broadcasting (No. 231/2001 Coll.) §31(2) requires ensuring the objectivity and balance of informational content and the separation of evaluative commentary from news reporting. §31(3) requires, on politically and economically controversial topics, balanced representation of opposing views.

Violation 1:

Standard: §2(2)(a) of Act No. 483/1991 Coll. + §31(3) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll.

Facts: The absence of any representation of the governing coalition (ANO/SPD/Motoristé) in a programme devoted to a politically controversial topic (support for Ukraine), while government policy is repeatedly implicitly criticised.

Evidence: Timestamp 05:37 — Quote: "If the government has significantly curtailed our aid, even though according to available data we are not losing out from support for Ukraine" — the presenter formulates a criticism of government policy on the basis of a contested assumption without the presence of a government representative.

Assessment: The stance on support for Ukraine is a politically controversial topic in the Czech Republic, for which §31(3) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll. expressly requires balanced representation of opposing views. The absence of the government perspective while simultaneously implicitly criticising government policy manifestly violates this obligation.

Violation 2:

Standard: §31(2) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll. — obligation to separate evaluative commentary from news reporting

Facts: Zelenskyj's speech in the European Parliament (26:50–35:27) containing strongly evaluative statements and political appeals is broadcast as part of a news programme without any analytical commentary, warning about one-sidedness or counterbalance.

Evidence: Timestamp 28:32 — Quote: "He is war and whoever supports Putin must understand that by doing so they are choosing war." — the statement is broadcast without commentary.

Assessment: Zelenskyj is the president of a warring party with a direct interest in mobilising European support. His speech is a political address, not news content. Broadcasting it without analytical distance and without counterbalance violates the obligation to separate evaluative commentary from news reporting and the obligation of objectivity.

Violation 3:

Standard: §2(2)(a) of Act No. 483/1991 Coll. — obligation of verifiability and objectivity of information

Facts: The calculation of "profit" from aid to Ukraine (04:14) is presented as a verified fact, despite being based on statements by a politician (Petr Fiala) with an interest in the outcome and its methodology being contested and unverified by an independent source.

Evidence: Timestamp 04:14 — Quote: "the Czech Republic is in the black by 12.7 billion CZK. Paradoxically, the Czech Republic is financially rather benefiting from aid to Ukraine."

Assessment: Presenting a politically motivated calculation as an objective fact without methodological warning and without independent verification violates the obligation of verifiability of information under §2(2)(a) of Act No. 483/1991 Coll.

Violation 4:

Standard: §31(3) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll. — balanced representation of opposing views

Facts: The anonymous claim about Ukraine's refusal to transfer technologies to the Czech Republic (19:42) is presented without a primary source and without the opportunity for the government side to respond.



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Evidence: Timestamp 19:42 — Quote: "I was told this quite unequivocally, because in view of the Czech government's stance they will simply give and will enable the transfer of the most sophisticated technologies to countries that fully cooperate with Ukraine"

Assessment: An anonymous claim damaging the governing coalition is broadcast without verification and without the opportunity for the government side to respond, thereby violating the obligation of balance and verifiability.

Overall assessment under §2 of the ČT Act / §31 of Act No. 231/2001

The analysed programme exhibits four identifiable violations of the statutory obligations of ČT and private broadcasters in the areas of objectivity, balance and separation of news from evaluative commentary. The most serious violation is the absence of any representation of the governing coalition in a programme devoted to a politically controversial topic, for which §31(3) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll. expressly requires balanced representation of opposing views. The broadcasting of Zelenskyj's speech without analytical counterbalance and the presentation of unverified economic data as facts further deepen the violations of obligations under §2(2) of Act No. 483/1991 Coll. and §31(2) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll. These violations are systemic and consistent throughout the entire programme, not isolated, which gives rise to reasonable suspicion of intentional or structural failure to fulfil the statutory mandate of the public service broadcaster.

IN-DEPTH SOURCE CHECK (mandatory for all cited expert institutions / NGOs / advisory bodies)

Source 1: CEVRO University / Tomáš Pojar

- 1. FUNDING:** CEVRO University is a private university with a conservative orientation, historically close to ODS. Funding comes from tuition fees and private sources.
- 2. MANDATE:** Educational and research institution — the mandate is compatible with security analysis, but not with the role of a neutral expert without political affiliation.
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Pojar served as national security adviser in the previous ODS-coalition government, which actively promoted support for Ukraine. He has a structural interest in criticising the ANO government's policy.
- 4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:** D1: -1, D2: +1, D3: +2, D4: +1, D5: 0, D6: +1 → TOTAL: +4 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW
- 5. COUNTER-VOICE:** A security analyst holding a different view on escalation risks or on the legitimacy of government restraint was not invited.

IMPORTANT: "Recognised expert" is not a substantive qualification. It is a social attribution that is itself subject to verification.

Source 2: Czech Chamber of Commerce / Zdeněk Zajíček

- 1. FUNDING:** The Chamber of Commerce is funded by membership contributions from businesses — it represents the interests of employers.
- 2. MANDATE:** The mandate of the Chamber of Commerce is to represent business interests, not to provide neutral analysis of the labour market from the perspective of the public interest.
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Employers have a direct economic interest in the availability of cheap labour from Ukraine — Zajíček represents this group, not the public interest.
- 4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:** D1: -2, D2: 0, D3: +1, D4: +1, D5: 0, D6: 0 → TOTAL: 0 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW
- 5. COUNTER-VOICE:** A representative of trade unions or workers who may be negatively affected by competition from cheap foreign labour was not invited.

Source 3: Statements by Petr Fiala (outgoing Prime Minister) on expenditure on aid to Ukraine

- 1. FUNDING:** Petr Fiala is the chairman of ODS — a political party funded from public funds and membership contributions.
- 2. MANDATE:** Fiala as outgoing Prime Minister represented a government that actively promoted aid to Ukraine — his statements are political communication, not neutral analysis.
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Fiala has a direct interest in presenting aid to Ukraine as a success and an economically advantageous policy — these are a defence of his own government's policy.



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4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX: D1: -2, D2: +1, D3: +1, D4: 0, D5: -1, D6: -1 → TOTAL: -2 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

5. COUNTER-VOICE: An independent economist or the SAO to verify the calculation methodology was not cited.

IMPORTANT: Statements by a politician defending their own policy are not a neutral data source. Their presentation as objective facts without drawing attention to this context is a violation of the obligation of verifiability of information.

Legal and Methodological Notes

No factual determination

The results presented do not constitute factual determinations about individual persons, editorial teams, or broadcasts. They are the product of a standardized operationalization, not a finding of individual responsibility.

No legal judgment

The aggregated deviation index does not replace a legal assessment under Zákon o ČT / Zákon č. 231/2001. The determination of whether a specific broadcast violates legal requirements is exclusively the responsibility of the competent authorities (in particular RRTV).

No proof of causation

Statistical correlations are not to be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intent. Deviation values may be influenced by topic selection, news environment, political controversy, or format logic.

No judgment of intent

The analysis measures observable structural characteristics of broadcasts. A score of 7 means a significant imbalance was detected — not that the editorial team intended it. The methodology makes no claims about motives or strategic objectives.

Heuristic comparison tool

The index serves comparative pattern recognition across thousands of broadcasts, not precise metric measurement of individual segments. Threshold values serve heuristic orientation, not sharp legal qualification.



APPENDIX 1: NATIONAL BROADCASTING LAW

Legal Framework

Czech public television is governed by the Czech Television Act (Zákon o České televizi, č. 483/1991 Sb.) and the Broadcasting Act (Zákon o provozování rozhlasového a televizního vysílání, č. 231/2001 Sb.). These laws mandate that Česká televize provides objective, verified, balanced and comprehensive information for the free formation of opinions. The Broadcasting Act further requires all broadcasters to ensure objectivity and balance in news programming and to clearly separate factual reporting from evaluative commentary.

Key Provisions

- §2 odst. 2 písm. a) Zákona o ČT: "poskytování objektivních, ověřených, ve svém celku vyvážených a všestranných informací pro svobodné vytváření názorů" — Provision of objective, verified, balanced and comprehensive information for free opinion formation.
- §31 odst. 2 Zákona č. 231/2001 Sb.: Broadcasters must ensure objectivity and balance of information content; evaluative commentary must be clearly separated from factual reporting.
- §31 odst. 3: In programmes dealing with political or economic controversies, the broadcaster must ensure balanced representation of competing views.
- §31 odst. 4: The right of reply must be granted to persons or groups whose reputation or rights may have been affected.
- §2 odst. 2 písm. b) Zákona o ČT: ČT must create and broadcast programmes for all population groups, including minorities and disadvantaged groups.

Regulatory Body

Rada pro rozhlasové a televizní vysílání (RRTV) — Council for Radio and Television Broadcasting. 13 members appointed by the Prime Minister on nomination from the Chamber of Deputies. Complaints can be filed via data box, e-mail (info@rrtv.cz), or in person. Response window: 30 days. Limitation period: 3 years.



APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC REFERENCES

References

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