

Threatening Russia: US Wants Missile Defense Center in Czech Republic

By [Karel Janicek](#)

Global Research, July 31, 2010

[The Associated Press](#) 30 July 2010

Region: [Europe](#)

Theme: [Militarization and WMD](#)

PRAGUE — The Czech prime minister said Friday his government has been negotiating a plan with the United States to place a warning center in the Czech Republic as part of a reworked U.S. missile defense plan.

Petr Necas said the purpose of the center was to gather and analyze information from satellite sensors “to detect missiles aiming at NATO territory.”

“It’s not supposed to be a huge military installation,” Necas said.

He said only several people will be needed to run the center, and that they could be from the U.S., NATO member countries or the Czechs after undergoing training.

It is not clear yet where in the country the installation could be based or when it could become operational. Necas said Prague was an option.

The U.S. plans to initially invest \$2 million in 2011 and 2012 for the center, which is expected to become part of a joint NATO missile defense shield in the future, Necas said.

In September, the Obama administration scrapped Bush-era blueprints for basing long-range interceptors in Poland and a radar system in the Czech Republic as part of a missile defense shield designed to shoot down long-range missiles from countries including Iran.

It was strongly opposed by Russia and unpopular among the Czech public.

The new system is focused on short- and medium-range interceptors.

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden won agreement from the Czech Republic and Poland to join Obama’s reconfigured missile defense during his October visit to Prague and Warsaw.

To build the center, no new Czech-U.S. deal or parliamentary approval will be needed, Necas said.

His government may support the new U.S. plan but opponents say they were ready to protest again.

“It’s too serious to be silent,” said Jan Tamas who organized numerous protest rallies against the radar base proposed by the Bush administration.

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Karel Janicek](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca