
THE CORRUPTION TRAP

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A Corpse in the Danube and a voice from the grave might sound more like elements from a film noir than an explanation of whats happening in Europe today. But to understand the tortured state of the Continents politics, theres no better place to start.

In October, the body of Christian Pilnacek, once the most powerful man in the Austrian justice ministry, was found floating in the river not far from the town of Krems, dead of an apparent suicide a few hours after hed been arrested on a DUI after driving in the wrong direction on the highway.

His life was taken from him, the civil servants widow, a top prosecutor, told a memorial service in November, in a bitter swipe at the countrys political elites.

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