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Democratic middle course



In a radio speech in Oct. 1939, U.S. Pres. [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) said that there are two distinct dangers to democracy: "There is the peril from those who seek the fulfillment of fine ideals at a pace that is too fast for the machinery of the modern body politic to function - people who by insistence on too great speed foster an oligarchic form of government such as Communism, or Naziism or Fascism." The other group, equally as dangerous, is "composed of that small minority which complains that the democratic processes are inefficient as well as being too slow." They, too, are in effect advocating the oligarchic form of government, he said. People in the two groups sharpen the argument and make us realize the value of the democratic middle course, he added. The Czech cabinet might want to keep this in mind as it acts with great haste to pass restrictive measures, while dragging its feet on relief measures. It seems that Petr Fiala has not yet realized the value of the democratic middle course.

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