Munich Conference—the Sound of Silence

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I watched with horror the deafening sound of silence following Vice President Pence’s greetings from President Donald Trump at this weekend’s Munich security conference. Was this an awkward moment? Sadly, that’s the least of it! We must wonder whether Trump supporters and Republicans in Congress will ever fully grasp the magnitude and danger of the fact that our current chief executive is disrespected and distrusted by our most valued and longtime allies, while at the same time being in lockstep with some of the world’s most ruthless despots?

Long after he is out of office—and partisan bickering fades—historians likely will record that this was one of the most frightening times in our nation’s history. And that of course assumes it doesn’t get worse—that Trump does not create some calamitous international event or his actions do not result in the destruction of our democracy, which goes beyond frightening.

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