

Abstract

Although a lot of people are not familiar with the term non-political politics, it has its indisputable place in the Czech history. It has evolved from thoughts of Karel Havlíček Borovský as a solution to the nation which was facing lack of its independence and was based upon awareness of national culture and self-governance. This conception was later adopted by Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, who implemented the idea into its own political programme aimed at free and educated society. His non-political approach reflected intellectual and steady attitude with a manifest perspective which made him a leading person in establishing an independent state of Czechs and Slovaks. In 1970s, Václav Havel restored non-political idea and designed it for the purpose of the confrontation with the communist regime. Owing to his authority, non-political politics became again one of the main mechanisms leading to political pluralism. The topic of non-political politics, which is often perceived as the legacy of Václav Havel, is still present in the days of growing scepticism towards a democratic system with political parties.

This thesis aims at description of non-political approach of K.H.B., T.G.M. and Václav Havel. It also attempts to ascertain if there is some similarity and continuity among the attitudes using the method of comparison. First three chapters consider general aspects of the topic. Initially, the term non-political politics itself is examined from the linguistic and historic perspective and is also singularized from the term antipolitics. The tradition of non-political approach in the Czech lands and its relation to the subject of morality and civil society are considered in the following two chapters. The substance of this thesis consists in the fourth and the fifth chapter where the particularities of different approaches are described regarding to historical context. They are subsequently compared on the basis of the selected criteria. The last chapter reflects the present discussion on the topic of non-political politics and also considers its potentiality and significance in modern times. The classification and the content of the thesis are summarized in the very conclusion of the work, as well as the evaluation of ascertainments and the attempt to define common attributes of non-political politics.