

Constitutional position of Slovakia in Czechoslovakia (1918 – 1992)

ABSTRACT (ENGLISH)

This thesis deals with the constitutional status of Slovakia within Czechoslovakia in the years 1918 – 1992, i.e. throughout the existence of the common state of Czechs and Slovaks.

The work is divided into seven chapters. The first chapter is devoted to the establishment of Czechoslovakia and the period of the so-called First Czechoslovak Republic (until 1938). In addition to the establishment of Czechoslovakia itself, it deals with the agreements of exile representations that preceded it, in more detail the Slovak autonomous movement and the constitutional proposals that emerged from this environment. The second chapter is focused on the position of autonomous Slovakia in the period of the so-called second Czech-Slovak Republic (1938 – 1939), analyzes the actual and constitutional acceptance of Slovakia's autonomy within the Czecho-Slovakia. He pays attention both to the historical circumstances of the adoption of the so-called Žilina Agreement in October 1938 and the Constitutional Act on the Autonomy of Slovakia in November 1938. The third chapter describes the constitutional situation of Czechs and Slovaks during the Second World War (1939 – 1945), briefly deals with the establishment of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, in more detail the independent Slovak Republic and the Provisional State Establishment in Exile. The fourth chapter is focused on changes in the position of Slovakia in the restoring Czechoslovakia (1944 – 1948). It maps the outbreak of the Slovak National Uprising, its course and especially its significant constitutional consequences. It also deals with the negotiations that preceded the formation of the first post-war government and its program (the so-called Košice government program). It describes in some detail the

circumstances of the conclusion of the so-called three Prague agreements, which meant a significant retreat from the positions achieved by the Slovak political representation thanks to the Slovak National Uprising and negotiations at the end of World War II. The fifth chapter briefly describes the constitutional development in 1948 – 1967, the sixth one describes the preparation and implementation of the Czechoslovak Federation (1968 – 1989). The last, seventh chapter deals with the disintegration and dissolution of Czechoslovakia after 1989.

Key words: Legal history. Czechoslovakia. Slovakia. Constitution.

