

## **Abstract**

This bachelor thesis addresses grant projects funded by the American nongovernmental organisation National Endowment for Democracy (NED) in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Despite being one country at the beginning of the 1990s, by the half of the decade, both countries already followed different directions. The aim of this thesis is to compare diverse strategies of NED in those countries during the 1990s and to analyse its impact on the development of democracy and civil society. The research method of this thesis is built on a categorisation of individual grant projects based on the information from NED annual reports and their consecutive confrontation with the development of related events. For the confrontation, this thesis uses primarily secondary literature, media outputs, available interviews, and information from the grant recipients. This comparison implies, that while Czechia stopped being funded by NED by the mid-1990s, Slovakia became one of its most significant priorities in the region. Slovakia is a prime example of functional democracy promotion abroad. In only a few years, NED accomplished to help the mobilisation of civil society and successful transition to liberal democracy. The Czech example, on the other hand, shows how unevenly distributed grants in its favour led to abrupt independence, but also to the swift rejection of further foreign assistance.