

## **Annotation**

This thesis deals with how three chosen Czech daily newspapers – Rudé právo, Mladá fronta (later Mladá fronta DNES) and Lidové noviny – wrote about significant events that took place in the union republics during the last three years of the Soviet Union's existence (1989–1991). It specifically focuses on those events through which the republics were trying to regain freedom and independence for themselves – either through protests, or in a political matter. The thesis also addresses events that were somehow groundbreaking or during which ordinary people, who went to the streets to express their disapproval of current political situation or to defend legally elected bodies, lost their lives. The thesis uses qualitative analysis to find out if there was a difference in how these three selected Czech newspapers wrote about such events in the context of changes that occurred in the Czech political and media system, and if each own coverage somehow evolved.