

Abstract (anglicky)

This thesis elaborates on the work of Bishop, and later Cardinal, Štěpán Trochta in the years 1950–1968. It sheds more light on his pro-regime actions in the early 1950s and at the same time on his anti-state activities that he “committed” in parallel, and for which he was eventually sentenced to 25 years in prison. Following that, the research is focused on the period which Trochta spent in communist prisons, and the efforts of the state power to force him into collaboration with the regime. The next part of this work analyses the period of his freedom, during which he was at first a manual worker in Prague and later a pensioner in charity homes in Tábor and Radvanov. The research ends with his return to the diocese in 1968. The aim of this thesis is to realistically depict the Bishop’s personality and his actions. In this respect, it strives to correct the hagiographically based works of Catholic biographers who have so far rather avoided this period (especially the 1960s). Furthermore, this thesis aims to provide a more detailed treatment of the events in the Bishop’s life that have not as yet enjoyed much attention in Czech historiography.