Abstract

The dissertation strives to analyze the functioning of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia at the turn of the 1940s and 1950s. It deals with contemporary social processes, namely extensive geographical migrations of population, and how these conditioned the party's operation. It focuses on the conditions that prevailed in the central, regional and district ranks of the party organism. It details the activities of the hierarchical machinery, the actions and interests of individuals and entire groups within the party. It conceives party actors both as determined by their environment and as autonomous actors with complex motivations and patterns of behavior. It deals with internal party terror, which included the so-called dictatorial practice of members of the regional stalinist elite, as well as the struggle against this practice led by lower officials and active party members, all within the framework of an official campaign to find enemies in the Communist Party. It sees the conflict as a specific phenomenon with its own conditions and dynamics, which more or less differed from region to region. As a result, there was a change in the social composition of the elite and the overall exercise of power. Dissertation considers the principles of Stalinism to be a fundamental factor in this development, having a far-reaching influence on the party members modes of conduct.

Keywords

Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSČ), Stalinism, central committee (ÚV), regional committee (KV), district committee (OV), regional stalinist elite, dictators, searching for the enemy within the party, terror