

## **Abstract**

The thesis "Reconstruction of the Development of Voegelin's Idea of Totalitarian Rule" traces the evolution of Eric Voegelin's understanding of totalitarian governance. Voegelin is noteworthy as an anti-Nazi political theorist, a native German who was compelled to emigrate from Vienna to the USA due to his views, where he continued his studies on totalitarianism. His concept of totalitarianism is examined primarily through the Nazi regime of the Third Reich and its critique. The work is divided into three parts: the first part derives the conception of totalitarianism primarily from Voegelin's work in the pre-war and war periods; the second follows the development of his views post-war; the third part compares Voegelin's views with those of the Nazi philosopher Carl Schmitt. This comparison reveals contrasting perspectives on Nazism, totalitarianism, and political power, providing deeper insight into the diversity of theoretical stances towards totalitarian systems of the era. By examining the views of these ideologically opposed authors, we can envisage what the intellectual debate about political systems might have looked like during World War II. Beyond political systems, Voegelin's views also touch upon contemporary society and long-term trends within it, such as the decline of faith. The methodology is based on the principles of intellectual history.