

The topic of this historical research based on a constructive paradigm is the development of civil society in Slovakia. This orientation is realised through the research of the life and work of the Slovak writer Dominik Tatarka, with a focus on the essays he wrote in the course of the reform movement of the Prague Spring. In the chapter called Contextualisation, there is an explanation of the influence of social and political developments on this author between 1913 and 1967. In the following chapter, called Interpretation, there is an attempt to understand Tatarka's concept of culture, which he presented and published in 1968-1969. This understanding is done from the perspective of the theory of civil society with a method of qualitative content analysis. Contribution to the topic lies in the conclusion that the basis of Dominik Tatarka's political and philosophical ideas is similar to the basis of ideas establishing a civil society. Specific to the case of Slovak society in 1968, however, was the fact that it was only partially modernized and that the first political and cultural priority was the defense of the national interest. By applying his ideas to Slovak society, Tatarka arrives at conclusions that are, from the perspective of the theory of civil society, contradictory and do not allow us to label him as a Slovak thinker of civil society in the Prague Spring.