

This magistr thesis examines the first two parts o f the significant conspiracy theory about Charter 77 and the velvet revolution: “Analysis o f 17th November and the changes in eastern Europe in 1989” written by Miroslav Dolejsi, a long-time political prisoner of communist regime. The submitted thesis tries to demonstrate which o f Dolejsi's assertions are truthful or at least probable, but also what is speculation or even disinformation.

In this regard, the magistr thesis refutes Dolejsi's gravest charge, that the Charter 77 represented right from its inception an intentionally created political reserve, or even the so-called “guided opposition” led by people linked to Czechoslovak and Soviet secret police. Rather, we suggest thinking about Charter 77 as a “controlled opposition” consisting of a contra elite potentially capable of replacing the discredited communists.

3The magistr thesis also did not find evidence to prove Dolejsi's claim that the power handover in 1989 was arranged in advance, although both dissidents and elites o f the old regime calculated on forthcoming changes and contacts between these two camps did exist. Pragmatic communists had probably been preparing themselves for the new conditions and some even helped to trigger the revolutionary events. Later during the talks between Civic Forum and Communist party the leaving communists could have been promised kind of guarantees typical for the so-called negotiated transitions.