

Abstract

The Master's Thesis "*The selected cases of the third Mečiar's government and the bias in news coverage in the Slovak television*" analyses a period of the third Mečiar's government on the basis of research focusing on the presence of bias in the news coverage in the Slovak television. This institution, which provides the public service broadcasting, is in general considered as a politicians' tool and during 1994-98 is described as a medium subordinated to the coalition government of that time, or even to a single political party.

Due to the previous research dealing with election campaigns in 1998 we decided to focus on two significant events – the kidnapping of Michal Kováč jr. in 1995 and the 1997 referendum, which could present an illustration of the media production during the respected period. Closer characteristics of the socio-political situation with the accent on the selected cases is outlined in the introductory part of the work together with the bias issue and the concept of public service broadcasting. In this work we pay attention to the characteristics of evolution of the Slovak television after 1989 as well, and to a closer description of its functioning and broadcasting in 1994-1998. The final part deals with the very research of bias in the main STV news programme by using the quantitative content analysis and offers the results of the actual public service television's condition during the period of the third Mečiar's government.