Two 1939 Soviet-German Pacts and Their Reflection in the Press of the Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia

Abstract

The main aim of the thesis is to analyze the reflection of the Soviet-German relations in the Czech legal press of the Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia at the time of the outbreak of the Second World War when the Ribbentrop-Molotov non-aggression pact (23 August 1939) and of the treaty of borders and friendship (27 September 1939) transformed the character of the international relations in the Central and Eastern Europe. At first, the text concentrates on analysis of the contemporaneous circumstances both in terms of international relations in Europe and in terms of internal domestic policies in the protectorate. In the following part, the author discusses the protectorate press response to the two German-Soviet treaties as well as the press attitudes to a number of other related issues such as the Soviet-Japanese conflict in Mongolia. The thesis is based on research of a series of Czech protectorate dailies, namely A-Zet, České slovo, Národní práce, Venkov a Vlajka. However, it also takes into account two illegal Czech periodicals, the magazine V boj and the Communist illegal newspaper Rudé právo.