Abstract

The paper Utilisation of the Yugoslav experiment as an inspiration for the Czechoslovak reforms in the period of the Prague Spring deals with a comparison between the fundamental elements of the Yugoslav self-management model, which started to develop in the Balkan country from the end of the 1940s, and the prevailing visions and targets of the Czechoslovak reform process of the second half of the 1960s. The economic system of the Tito Yugoslavia represented, in fact, the only alternative to the directive Soviet model which was copied from the Soviet Union by other countries of the East Block. It is mainly for this reason why it is highly possible that the Czechoslovak experts looked for an inspiration in the already working Yugoslav system whose strong and weak points could already be seen in practice. For the purpose of this comparison, we have chosen five main backbones of both economic systems, as follows: planning, position of enterprises, price system, foreign trade and private enterprise. The selection of the phenomena is conditioned by their existence itself, and mainly by their significant importance for both the Yugoslav experiment and the reforms of the Prague Spring.

Keywords: Yugoslavia, self-governing socialism, Czechoslovakia, reform process, 1960s, planning, price systém, position of enterprises