This dissertation is the very first scholarly text to bring a wider perspective on the genesis of Czech sport journalism, starting with its beginnings in the latter half of the 1800’s and extending to the year of 1918, when this profession became an independent branch of the newspaper business. Given the paucity of original literature, the present work is based primarily on the study of period newspapers and archival materials, employing mainly the direct and the indirect methods of historiography. The main purpose of it was to describe the formation of the discipline of sport journalism in the broader context of the Czech society, sports and media, rather than regarding it as an independent, isolated process.

The constituent parts of this dissertation, which renders the dawn of Czech sport journalism, include the most important titles of the day as well as the key personalities in the publishing and journalism of the period, the issue of sport reportage within the established political press, and also the genesis of the professions of sport journalist and sport photographer. The chapters that place the main theme within a wider historical context compare the brief description of the evolution of sport journalism in the Czech lands to the origins of sport journalism in other countries (Great Britain, USA, France, Germany, Austria). A key element of this work, which may be useful in future research into the history of sport journalism, is the index of the first sport journalists.