

**TITLE:**

The first presidential mandate of Václav Havel

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**ABSTRACT:**

The thesis called „The first presidential mandate of Václav Havel” commemorates the important period of our modern history after the fall of the communist regime in late 1989. It focuses especially on the Václav Havel’s role in the beginning of building of the foundations of the post-communist country. The thesis analyses the circumstances under which Václav Havel assumed the office of President of the republic, it also deals with his options and limits he had during that era and afterwards the thesis occupies with the question to which extent he could apply his previous ideas about functioning of practical politics to the presidential function. Subsequently the media reaction about his activity in his new position in the former Czechoslovakia and abroad is analyzed. The thesis concludes that Havel dramatically and significantly changed the presidency. He restored the social weight and prestige which belongs to the office despite some controversial decisions he made. At the same time the thesis is attentive to the historical constraints of the era which either such a strong and distinctive personality like Václav Havel could not overcome.

**KEYWORDS:**

Václav Havel, presidency, velvet revolution, post-communism