

Abstract

The dissertation *The Media Image of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident on the Pages of Selected Czechoslovak/Czech and American Press* based on contemporary press shows the way the Chernobyl nuclear accident was depicted in the press and the way its media image developed.

The paper introduces historical context such as the Soviet-American relationships and ecological activities in the CSSR. Last but not least it describes causes, course and consequences of the Chernobyl accident.

In the analysis only Czechoslovak/Czech and American press from the period from 1986 until 2011 was used. This procedure enabled putting down and analysing the accident's media image in particular dailies and its transformation through the time. It also enabled the confrontation between the Czechoslovak/Czech and the American press depiction.

The contribution of this dissertation is in the fact that it complements previous studies about the Chernobyl accident which primarily dealt with its ecological, health, social and economical consequences. A more extensive study about its media depiction was missing until now.