

The thesis focuses on the role the Slovaks played in the socio-cultural life of Prague in the 19th and at the beginning of the 20th centuries, as the time span between the years 1815 and 1914 comprises several basic stages in its development. The first stage is characterized mainly through its key figures, with a good deal of attention paid to P. J. Šafařík. A stage that fostered the importance of the Czech capital for the Slovak national movement is the revolutionary year of 1848 and the events related to the Pan-Slavic Congress attended by figures such as L. Štúr or J. M. Hurban. Despite the importance and the revolutionary nature of social affairs, a significant role was still played by individuals. A different situation is observed in the following stage, especially with the arrival of a strong generation of Slovak students after 1867, who concentrated around the students' association *Detvan*, subsequently giving rise, after 1898, to the *Hlas* movement with personages such as V. Šrobár. The thesis deals with other figures as well, especially writer M. Kukučín. An important turning-point was the foundation of *Czechoslavic Unity* in 1896, as well as the dynamic development of the mutual relations, especially after the Černov tragedy in 1907. Prague had thus gradually become the decisive and influential centre for the young Slovak generation as for the formation of new ideas, including those of political concepts. An integral part of the present thesis maps the lives of these individuals onto specific sites in Prague, correlating its history and culture with the development of Czecho-Slovak relations.