SUMMARY

This thesis presents the results of a historical investigation of the arrival and presence of Vietnamese immigrants in Prague between 1974 and 1993. Methodologically, the research is based on interviews with witnesses of the program of socialist internationalism and on the study of the Czechoslovak government administrative documents from the period between 1974, ie. the year the signing of the Agreement between the Government Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam about employing Vietnamese citizens in Czechoslovak organizations¹, with a milestone in 1989 as the collapse of the communist regime, and the year 1993, as the separation of Slovakia and the establishment of an independent Czechoslovak Republic

This work is not only based on the assumption that this program influenced the integration of the first generation in Czechoslovak society, but it also shows an indirect influence on the second generation coming after the Velvet Revolution, due to the program's effect on the emergence of Vietnamese social networks.

The research aims to uncover the factors that influence the adaptation of the first and second generations in the majority environment and to indicate the effect that the normative framework of the program had on the formation of ethnic social networks. It is indeed these networks, based on the (kin-based) relations of the extended family, that function inside the diaspora as providers of social and economic capital, allowing for the preservation of the Vietnamese population's isolation from majority society.

¹ NAČR, “Dohoda mezi vládou Československé socialistické republiky a vládou Vietnamské demokratické republiky o odborné přípravě občanů Vietnamské demokratické republiky v československých organizacích” signé à Hanoi le 8 avril 1974