Abstract

The thesis “A content analysis of photographs in Pesty tyden and LIFE magazine” analyses two successful magazines of the first half of the 20th century. Intentionally, two periodicals of different origin (Czechoslovakia and the United States) are compared to investigate the assumption that the different origin has major influence on the overall concept and focus of the periodicals. The subject of this study is the selection of volumes of 1937-1945, the period of the greatest success of both magazines. The study aims not only at describing the contents of the periodicals but also at situating them into social, political and art-historical context. The study is based on a theoretical part which gives a general overview of photojournalism and tracks the slow beginning of journalistic photography and the birth of the first illustrated magazines. This part also deals with technological development which made possible quality image journalism. The study does not leave out numerous restrictions, e. g. censorship, which were a frequent point of struggle for the magazines' authors.

Key words: illustrated magazines, magazine photography, photojournalism, documentary photography, war photography, censorship, propaganda