Abstract

This work deals with the evolution of the topics of Anti-Semitism and Anti-Zionism in Czechoslovakia between the years 1945-1953. It is divided into three parts. The first part deals with the definition of the concepts of Zionism, Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism, thus comprising the theoretical framework of the thesis. The second part analyzes the political historical developments in the era of 1945-1953, during which the Communist Party seizes power. Described here is also the importance of the establishment of the State of Israel in the context of the development of Soviet-Israeli relations and Czechoslovak-Israeli relations. These relations later developed the attitudes towards the Jewish communities. In the third part, the work deals with the stance of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia towards Jews. It views the stance as an overlapping combination of Anti-Semite and Anti-Zionist positions, which culminates in the political trials of the 1950s. It also shows an interesting contrast whereas during that same time, the Communists allowed the grand re-opening of the Pinkas Synagogue Memorial, honoring the victims of the Holocaust. The interplay between the Communists and Jews was neither wholly positive, nor entirely negative; both sides of the stance can be demonstrated. They are influenced by the official political line of the Soviet Union. The Czechoslovak Communists usually followed that line, especially in the attitude towards Jews.