

Abstract

This diploma thesis strives to find an answer to the question of how the regional daily paper *Pravda* published by the West-Bohemian Regional Committee of KSČ in Pilsen informed about the principal events of the year 1989, namely the series of January demonstrations in the centre of Prague later called “Palach Week”, about the *Several Sentences* Petition published in the midyear by Charter 77, about the demonstrations organized on the occasions of the 21 August 1968 and 28 October 1918 anniversaries, and about the “Velvet Revolution” that put an end to the more than 40-year reign of the Communist Party (KSČ) in Czechoslovakia. The thesis also ascertains to what extent the information provided by *Pravda* was distorted by the regime propaganda, and compares the approach of this daily paper to informing about the principal 1989 events with that of the central KSČ daily *Rudé právo*. The diploma thesis also describes the way of how the West-Bohemian Regional Committee of KSČ in Pilsen assessed the development of the political situation in the country in the year 1989 and how it controlled the *Pravda* daily paper. The theoretical part of the thesis familiarizes with the political and economic situation in Czechoslovakia in the 1980s and describes the relevant milestones in 1989. The thesis core part is the quantitative and qualitative analysis of selected periodicals with focus on the principal events of the year 1989.