

The dissertation thesis *Collected Works of Jan Patočka as an Editorial Problem* deals with both the samizdat and the printed versions of the collected works of Czech philosopher Jan Patočka (1907 – 1977) and other domestic as well as foreign editions of his work. The Archival Collection of Jan Patočka's Work emerged as the side product, to some extent uncoordinated and intuitive, of the sorting of the author's legacy in the years 1977 – 1989. Nevertheless, the 27 volumes of this unpublished edition represent a fully-fledged attempt to organize a critical edition of Patočka's collected works. At the end of the 1980's, an exile edition was intended, as the outcome of the cooperation of domestic, exiled and foreign community of researchers. The post-revolution *Collected Works of Jan Patočka* have been published since 1996 and, contrary to the previous series, represent a re-arranged and amended edition. The paper follows the process of scientific reflection, which has accompanied the edition of Patočka's works (both edition series were assembled by the same editorial team of Patočka's disciples.) We describe the use of thematic, chronological and other criteria in the course of the organization of the collected works, the transformation and scope of editorial commentaries, especially when dealing with the areas of Patočka's work that are problematic from the editorial perspective. Among these belong his originally German or French works (often created as variants of his Czech texts), lectures documented by means of taped records or listeners' notes, as well as unpublished texts, manuscript versions, fragments and drafts. On the basis of this analysis we go on to formulate more general features of editorial practice and outline the way in which the editorial solution is reflected in the form of actual accessibility of the complete volume of an author's work, whose own thematic and chronological profile conditions the appropriateness of the outlined solutions.