

## **Abstract**

The dissertation deals with various aspects of the translation of children's literature from English into Czech, focusing on its earliest stages. The methodology of the research is based on the polysystem theory. It indicates – in agreement with the hypotheses of the theory – that the polysystem of Czech children's literature developed under a strong influence of translation. In the earliest stages, original English texts played a marginal role; they were mostly translated into Czech indirectly via German mediating texts. With the commencement of direct translation at the turn of the 19th and the 20th centuries, the influence of literary models of English origin became stronger; they enriched Czech children's literature by specific thematic genres, as well as new stimuli of the new conception of imaginative children's literature, which replaced older didactically oriented texts rooted in the tradition of philanthropism.

The dissertation also examines bibliographic issues of the analyzed subsystem. It illustrates by examples how the customary enumerative bibliography can be extended to the sphere of textology and yield new findings concerning translated texts (e.g. the identification of the mediating text or the correct form of the translation). The dissertation pays attention especially to texts that were translated repeatedly and outlines their later development in the Czech literary system. For example, it provides a detailed analysis of Czech versions of Carroll's *Alice*. The conclusions of the dissertation contribute to the delimitation of the position of translation in the polysystem of children's literature and its special features (e.g. the absence of certain genres, high "longevity" of old translations, or the acceptability of adaptation methods).

**Key Words:** translation from English into Czech; children's literature; polysystem theory; adaptation; children's literature genres; translation of *Alice in Wonderland*.