

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with political system of the Second Czechoslovak Republic. The first chapter presents a definition of authoritarian regimes and their division by Juan José Linz. The paper then introduces the political system of the First Czechoslovak Republic in order to provide better description of the differences and changes in the Second Republic later. After that the thesis deals with the Munich Agreement and its influence on the form of the Second republic. The next chapter is dedicated to individual aspect of the Second Czechoslovak republic and primarily tries to answer the question: “Was the political system of the Second Czechoslovak Republic democratic, or was it more in authoritarian tone?” This chapter follows in great detail the constitution, the functioning of state administration, the system of state organs, the economic regime and the respect for civil rights and freedoms. The system of political parties received its own chapter, because the decline of democracy is most obvious when closely inspected. In this chapter, the possible forms of the system of political parties are described and a great attention was paid to Strana národní jednoty (National Unity Party) and Národní strana práce (National labour party). The system of political parties in Slovakia is then presented with the intention to clarify the functioning of disloyal opposite groups. In the end, the theory of authoritarian regimes by Juan José Linz is applied on the case of the Second Republic, which answers the research question from earlier.