

Abstract

The main topic of the thesis is the religious development of Pilsen at the times of the First Republic (1918-1938), which is understood as the development of the Catholic Church, the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, the Czechoslovak Church and the Non-believers' Movement. The aim is to introduce individual religious entities, to show their mutual interaction and their ability to influence the surrounding society. The influence of religion is observed throughout the society, from the communal politics through the school education to the regional identity. This is all happening on the background of complex social processes (demographical, economic, cultural, political and social) that are properly taken into account. Another important topic of this work is the ability of religious organizations to respond adequately to the new challenges that emerge with these processes. The regional data identified are compared to similar urban areas and the rest of the country. Religious development in Pilsen should not only give evidence of the city itself, but also about the First Czechoslovak Republic as such.

Key words: Czechoslovakia, First Republic, Pilsen, religion, social movement