

# ABSTRACT

The orientation of Czechoslovakian foreign policy on Africa, Asia and Latin America took various forms after the World War II. Apart from economic and military cooperation, rising numbers of university scholarships offered to students from developing countries coming to Czechoslovakia are worth our attention. This resulted, together with increasing accent on support of emerging new states, in establishing of The University of 17th November in 1961 – a new university for foreign students. Due to the University, the Czechoslovakian society was for the first time confronted with growing numbers of ethnically and culturally different people. Along with the history of educational institution, this study focuses on the mutual coexistence of foreign students and broader society and on the general reception of the school.

Founding of the University was also a Czechoslovak response to a trend developing at the time in some states of the Western European as well as in the Soviet Union where The Patrice Lumumba Friendship University was opened in 1960 in Moscow. The trend was based on a rather optimistic assumption that present-day students later become a part of newly arising elites and occupy important and powerful positions in the decolonized world. The Soviet Union and its satellites (not only Czechoslovakia but also Eastern Germany and Bulgaria) copied this trend and thus such a scientific and academic dimension became part of the geopolitical spheres of influence race. However, as the great expectations put in the new university were not for various reasons accomplished, the efforts of Czechoslovakian foreign policy to win third world countries' favour declined and therefore the University was shut down in 1974.

Scientific research dealing with African, Asian and Latin American countries was also supported by the Czechoslovakian state at that time and stronger emphasis was placed on education of Czechoslovakian specialist and experts in this area, those were also taught at The University of 17th November. Although the University existed for a relatively short time, it affected Czechoslovakian academic *milieu* considerably: translatology was established as a separate course of study and since 1975 it has been evolving at the Faculty of Arts of the Charles University.