

Abstract

In this master's thesis I am researching the foreign policy of Edvard Beneš in 1938-1945. Foreign policy of Czechoslovakia is closely linked to Beneš as he led it continuously since 1918 – first as a minister of foreign affairs and after 1935 as president. Beneš did reassess his foreign policy after the Munich Agreement and Czechoslovakia emerged from the World War II tightly connected to the Soviet Union without any western counterbalance. This shift in foreign policy subsequently led to transformation of Czechoslovakia into Soviet satellite which is frequent subject to criticism of Edvard Beneš. The goal of this thesis is to analyse the development of the second Czechoslovak President's foreign policy in 1938-1945 and to define the causes of the shift in the foreign policy of Czechoslovakia. I will be focusing mainly on the backgrounds of determining the foreign policy since Edvard Beneš' statements depended mainly on the audience. I want to accomplish that based on research of memoirs and many more documents. I will confront my interpretations of the primary sources with views from the secondary sources. One of the goals of this thesis is also to find out if it's possible to draw new and valuable conclusions by researching available primary sources.