

Abstract

Using the concepts of social imaginary (C. Castoriadis), social representations (S. Moscovici), Eigen-Sinn (A. Lüdtke) and tactics (M. de Certeau), this thesis answers the question of whether in people's democratic Czechoslovakia (1945–1960) came into existence, or was coming into existence, what could be called a "socialist night." The problem is addressed as in the domain of imagination and narrative as well as in the domain of everyday experience of night at the time when Czechoslovakia had ambition to establish a new economic, political and social order after the end of the World War Two. The first symbolical step in the process of creation of new Czechoslovakia was the end of the war and was proclaimed to be completed in July 1960, when the Socialist Constitution was adopted. The question is addressed with the use of analysis of audiovisual sources, media, administrative, legislative, technical-statistical and police sources. Other applied theories are also the concept of governmentality (M. Foucault), the mass culture (W. Benjamin, T. Adorno, M. Horkheimer) and the legitimate dominion (M. Weber).