

## **Abstract**

The work examines and compares personal values, behavioural patterns, personal motivation and career choices of six individuals from the Velvet Revolution period using interviews obtained by the oral-historical method. The main aim is to answer the question where people who helped transform one regime into another had come from and how they coped with tasks they could not have been prepared for in advance.

In late 1989, the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia collapsed. One way of running the society was quickly replaced by another, but the society did not collapse, and life went pretty smoothly on. All of a sudden, many opportunities opened up as well as many responsibilities to generations of people who could not have been prepared to take either of them. Yet at least some of them did so. How did they manage?

## **Keywords**

Czechoslovak society 1989–1992, career decision-making, Velvet revolution of 1989, network of social acquaintances, transformation of society