

## **Abstract**

The thesis analyses British foreign policy regarding Central Europe during Margaret Thatcher's government and her personal relationship with Central European countries. It takes account of three case studies. The first one analyses the British policy regarding nominally socialist countries in the last decade of communism. It investigates Margaret Thatcher's relationship with the first independent trade union in Soviet sphere, Polish Solidarity. The second study focuses on British policy regarding the crumbling communist regimes. It is an analysis of the British stance during the German reunification negotiations. The last study focuses on Thatcherite reforms as an inspiration for the post-communist countries. It examines Czech economic transformation and its inspiration in Thatcherism. The goal is to show, that Thatcher's policy was much more complicated than it is generally assumed. In the case of Poland, she was a key person in securing Solidarity's negotiation with the government; at the same time, she was afraid of weakening the government, as she regarded it as weak link in Soviet power. In the case of Germany, she went against her own Foreign Office, when she was against strong Germany and did not want to weaken Gorbachev. In Czechia she was a "shining example", however the translation of Thatcherite ideas into Czech policy was less straightforward.