

**Abstract:**

Focus of the thesis is on the trial with Rudolf Slánský in Czechoslovakia in 1951 and the trial of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg in the United States in 1951, which took place parallelly on the opposite sides of the Iron Curtain during the Cold War. Its aim will not only be to compare these two trials, but also, with the use of the transnational perspective, to analyse the trials in both their respective and shared context. This is to point out their shared aspects, which from the traditional point of view, represent two opposite ideological perspectives. By incorporating political trials to the epicentre of the Czechoslovak and American political agendas during the 1950s, it is, via the use of examples such as antisemitism or construction of the image of an enemy in its respective societies, possible to examine permeability of an ideological barrier and construct in the American democracy as well as in the Czechoslovak state socialism. From the transnational perspective, with the use of secondary literature and primary sources such as the print media, audio and visual recordings, and textual transcripts of the trials, the thesis will attempt to provide a different and critical angle on the implementation of political trials by both the democratic and communist regimes, and overall, on their central role within the Cold War front.

**Key words:**

transnationalism, Cold War, political trials, Rudolf Slánský, Julius Rosenberg, Ethel Rosenberg, ideology, communism, McCarthyism, antisemitism