

Diploma thesis „Czech Euroscepticism in Historical Perspective“ deals with different representations, roots, specificities and common features of publicly acting opponents of contemporary European integration in the Czech Republic. Especially, it focuses on historicist argumentation of Czech eurosceptics who work usually with older historical stereotypes and myths, which were already largely diffused in the 19th century.

After a definition of the term euroscepticism, and an explanation of its specificities in Central Europe, the thesis deals successively with an analysis of eurosceptical exposures in Czech public space, more precisely from the pre-accession period until the adoption of the Lisbon treaty in November 2009. Chapters are divided chronologically in relation with important events in the EU – Czech Republic relations, while the context of each phenomenon is shortly described.

Every attempts of a historicist argumentation are remitted to a critical analysis and compared with older theses mainly concerned in modern Czech nationalist discourse. At the close the authors offers an evaluation of this political instrument, often used not only in the opposition to the European integration process, but also for gaining votes on the basis of self-profiling thanks to a new theme in Czech society.