

Abstract

The dissertation “*Czech and Slovak Public Diplomacy after 1993: The Transformation of Czech Centres and Slovak Institutes*” seeks to compare Czech and Slovak model of public and cultural diplomacy after the peaceful separation of Czechoslovakia in 1993. It seeks to investigate whether the two countries embarked on similar journeys in their foreign affairs and whether the public and cultural diplomacy is at the forefront of their international policies. The dissertation aims to establish whether to accept or reject the hypothesis that the same historical circumstances and transformational similarities inevitably lead to similarities of Czech and Slovak public and cultural diplomacy. The first chapter of the dissertation focuses on a theoretical interpretation of public and cultural diplomacy. The second chapter of the dissertation deals with both countries’ historical experience and describes the model of public and cultural diplomacy in each country from year 1993 to now. This part of the dissertation delineates conceptual documentation and describes the institutional dimension of this issue. The third and fourth chapter of the dissertation then separately deal with Czech Centres and Slovak Institutes as the primary players in the cultural diplomacy abroad. The final and core chapter of the dissertation, which was written with the help of employees of the above mentioned institutions, compares the activities, work and function of the Czech Centres and Slovak Institutes. Ultimately, the dissertation evaluates the Czech and Slovak model of public and cultural diplomacy and compares the work of Czech Centres and Slovak Institutes, whose primary function is to actively promote Czech Republic and Slovakia internationally.