

Abstract

Jazz section, founded in 1971, was amateur organization of musicians and enthusiasts, which organized concerts and exhibitions, published magazines and books, and made „culture“ in general. Due to circumstances in the former Czechoslovakia, when every different and self-contained tendency was repressed, the Section, as a representative of alternative and independent culture, became a target in view-finder of establishment and its power. In the course of time was the press on the Section escalated and it resulted in persecutions, restrictions and finally in judicial process with some of the members. In the story of Jazz section is reflected both manner of social-cultural-political systems and structures standing against each other – concept of the civic society is characterized by plurality, independence and freedom, and on the other side the totalitarian regime is distinguished by power apparatus and instruments of its control.

Key words: civil society, alternative culture, totalitarian power, Communist party of Czechoslovakia