

Abstract

This work focuses on constitutional and political development in Czechoslovakia after the coup d'état in February 1948 that performed the Communist Party to gain absolute power. The author examines the nature of the political system immediately after the coup, and the differences between constitutional law and contemporary reality. The author assumes that some establishment not only the constitution but also other laws was just a front for illegal consolidation of a totalitarian regime. First, the work focuses to the period before February 1948, and the aspects that led to the coup, as well as the development of a new constitution, which were not completed before the coup. Second, the February events itself are analyzed with an emphasis on the extent to which took place in accordance with the constitutional order. The period after 1948, when there were illegal consolidation of power by the Communist Party, political purges and radical transformation of society, is analyzed in the following chapters.

The author concludes that the future direction of Czechoslovakia was decided soon after the 1945 communist infiltration of the security forces. They also played an important role in the coup itself. While the Communist Party argued that the act of resignation of ministers and complement government was held under the constitution, political pressure on the president, the formation of action committees across the country, organizing artificial demonstrations used for coercion and intimidation – all this was wrong. After the coup illegalities rate still increased significantly, whether it was a political purges, or the adoption of laws that contradicted the democratic laws and the constitution in force.