

*Cycling advocacy has taken a form of a popular worldwide social movement in the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Cyclists demand not only improved conditions for cycling, but also a reform in the way the city is being run in order to be “livable” and saturated with “quality public spaces”. This dissertation attempts to put the phenomenon in the context of the theory of risk society and it attempts to incorporate impulses from the theoretical tradition of ANT. The cycling controversy is being read as a re-invention of politics in urban arenas. What is political about the bicycle? More than it may seem. The bicycle has endured a long trajectory of political appropriation by various groups in order to arrive at a point where it began to be conceived as the default starting point of the critique of automobility and Western modernity. As a consequence the bicycle emerges as a loaded political symbol that is being appropriated by cycling advocates in order to problematize the alienated city colonized by cars, appropriated by business interests and neglected by the political representation. The bicycle is being reinvented as a symbol of urban revolution. This dissertation introduces the results of an empirical research undertaken between June 2013 and April 2015 that maps the shape of the cycling controversy in Prague. The controversy is being driven by ‘cycling lobbyists’, who form strategic partnerships with various local and global actors and who construct an alternative vision of ‘the good life’ in the city. Cycling lobbyists are being described as translators (in the Latourian sense), who simultaneously construct an outlook on politics for their adherents and turn their indirect support into political capital to be used in negotiating concession from the political structures of the city.*

FIALA, Šimon, 2015. *Cyklističtí lobbyisté a vynalézání politiky v pozdně moderní době*. Diplomová práce (Mgr.). Univerzita Karlova, Fakulta sociálních věd, Institut sociologických studií. Katedra sociologie. Praha. 123 s. Vedoucí diplomové práce Prof. PhDr. Jiří Kabele, Ph.D.