

Abstract

The bachelor thesis entitled Forced labour of Slovakian Hungarians in Bohemia in 1945-1948 deals with one of the solutions of the Hungarian minority liquidation in Czechoslovakia. First chapter depicts the international context of the Hungarian minority question, the behaviour of Hungary and Czechoslovakia and the approach of victorious superpowers. In the second chapter, the author describes three periods that saw the Hungarian population being transported from Slovakia to Bohemia to take part in the forced labour programme: from October to December 1945, from July to August 1946 and from the end of 1946 to February 1947. Third chapter is focused on a shift in Czechoslovak policy towards Hungarian minority, the return of Hungarians back to Slovakia and the colonization consequences. The thesis is based on an analysis of available resources and the method of oral history. The paper contains interviews with witnesses Imre Lengyel, Gabriel Tarnolci, Alexander Mokoš and Maria Jergyik, which illustrates the impact of colonization on the Hungarians. The author's aim is to identify the reasons for the act of colonization, why it was unsuccessful and what were the implications for the Hungarian minority. Based on the research, the following findings were concluded. The colonization and forced labour occurred because of the need to deal with the Hungarian minority issue internally as the international forum failed to come up with a solution and negotiations between Hungary and the Czechoslovak government did not go according to plan. The failure of the action was caused by the fact that Czechoslovak government had not thought it through. The Czechoslovak solution of the Hungarian population assimilation in Bohemia was not well received by the Hungarians as they did not want to remain in Bohemia. The act of colonization and forced labour had mostly negative impact on the Hungarian population, uprooted from its environment and deprived of its property.