

This thesis deals with the translations of Czech prose published in the 1970s and 1980s by *Volk und Welt*, the second largest publishing house in the German Democratic Republic (GDR). Using the publisher's and other paratexts, the empirical research aims to reconstruct the image of Czech literature that *Volk und Welt* helped to create. The issue under scrutiny draws methodological as well as theoretical inspiration from Anton Popovič, the Slovak translation scholar who *inter alia* postulated a theory of metatexts, André Lefevere and the Manipulation School, as well as Gérard Genette, who came up with a theory of paratexts. The publishing activities of *Volk und Welt* are painted against a broad political and cultural background. By analysing the publisher's reviews, required for the books to be approved for circulation in the GDR, as well as by dissecting other paratexts, the author uncovers strategies whereby the selected books of Czech literature found their way both to the reviewers and the general public.