

## **Abstract:**

This thesis is divided into two parts. The first part is the theoretical one. In this theoretical part I am describing the theory of speech acts by the authors J. L. Austin and J. R. Searle. These theories are key elements for the understanding of the main methodology written by the author Q. Skinner, that is used in this thesis later on. In the theoretical part I also define the presumption of innocence which is a commonly used term in law. The reason for this is that the presumption of guilt is based on the presumption of innocence.

The other half is the practical part of my thesis. I am analyzing three real cases out of our recent political history. The first one is the evolution of the concept of presumption of guilt in the political career of Miloš Zeman, who introduced us to this term. I will also be looking at two very well know political cases of Stanislav Gross and Andrej Babiš.

In the end I will either confirm or refute the hypothesis.

## **Key words:**

Presumption of innocence, presumption of guilt, theory of speech acts, the performative role of language, legal state, democratic values