

## **Abstract**

The thesis deals with the Czechoslovakia – Vatican relationships in the 1960's with an emphasis on the 1968 Prague Spring time. It summarises the importance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ecumenical Council of the Vatican and demonstrates the transformation of the papacy starting with early 1960's. The core of the thesis is an analysis of the political relations between Czechoslovakia and Vatican in 1968, and the attitude of Pope Saint Paul VI. (1963-1978) to the events in Czechoslovakia, with added emphasis on the personalities of Czech and Slovak bishops, negotiations between the Church and the state, as well as the metamorphoses of the Czechoslovakia-Vatican diplomatic contacts. The diplomatic negotiations present an interesting bonus primarily from the Radio Vaticana archive, which is available, in a digital version, at the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes website.

## **Keywords**

Communism; Vatican II – Second Ecumenical Council of the Vatican; Pope St. Paul VI.; Catholic Church; Vatican.