

Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to present the formation process of the Czechoslovak social democratic party during the Prague spring era. The attempt to restore the party in 1968 took place in an atmosphere of significant liberalization and democratization of the then regime, which consecutively made possible the creation of many independent organizations among which the Social democratic party was included. First, we will state what claims the efforts to restore the party were based on and what the form of the newly emerged formation should have been. The thesis will then attempt to analyse the relationship of the Communist Party to this independent movement and its development against the background of changes in the political and social climate during a few months in 1968. The text will present what power tools the ruling party used to prevent this activity and how successful it was in these actions. The role of the press, both partisan and opposition, played in this attempt of polarization of the system will also be outlined. The thesis will be limited by the act of invasion of the Warsaw Pact troops, that is, the act that both the restoration of the social democratic party played a role in, and that subsequently dashed the attempt of given party's restoration.

Keywords: prague spring, communism, Czechoslovak social democratic party