

Abstract

The topic of the thesis are so-called „new ecclesiastical laws“ accepted in 1949, that had served as one of the power tools for the oppression of the Churches and the control over the society. Within the chapters in sequence I deal with the description and genesis of these new ecclesiastical laws, received by Czechoslovak communist regime in 1949 and their importance not only for the confessional law of the following period until now. In this context I ask the question what are the extent effects not only for the life of the Churches, esp. the Catholic Church, but also for the mentality of the contemporary Czech society in relationship with the Church.

This thesis is concerned with three spheres that are necessarily interconnected: First, the legislation of these laws themselves, second, the social reception of the Church interlinked with these laws, and third sphere is also the projection of these laws into the political rhetoric nowadays. The goal of the thesis is to reveal the deep interconnection and dynamics of the three spheres given, and explore how the way they were manifested in the past, and have consequently been manifested until these days.

Keywords

Czechoslovakia, 1949, ecclesiastical laws, the power and the law, present time: law, society and politics.