

Abstract

This thesis examines the spatial distribution of monuments across public spaces in Prague. Its goal is to determine how these monuments, with diverse symbolisms, are arranged in the public space, how they interact with this space and the conflicts they generate. Because the symbolic meaning of a monument is so important, this paper explores the monuments' significance at the time they were built compared to their contemporary meaning. Based on field research and data collection, categories of monuments were created, mapped in ArcGIS software and then analysed in more detail. The paper considers the spatial distribution of monuments in the so-called Greater Prague, investigating the factors that have influenced their location supported by evidence from literature. This thesis also examines contentious monuments, particularly the Marian column and the statue of Marshal Konev, why they are perceived as problematic from the perspective of collective memory and how that is reflected in the city's spaces. The results of the analysis demonstrate that the function of a monument changes over time and society places great emphasis on its symbolic meaning. Contemporarily, the most common monuments are those depicting the tragic events of the World Wars, and these can be found across the entire area in scope. Although the paper focused on two contentious monuments, the study showed that there are many more of these locations with diverse bases for conflict. Considerable interest in building new monuments and their appropriate historical interpretation continues into the 21st century.

Keywords: *monuments, public space, collective memory, Marshal Konev, Marian column*