

This diploma work describes the process of historical development of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) prior to its formation, formation in 1895, to the present. It also contains key moments in the relationships between ICA and the Czech area of co-operation.

The work considers not only internal development of the ICA, but also the external circumstances which influenced it. The aim of the work is to show the course of the process of historical development of the ICA as a reflection of development and needs of the growing co-operative movement in the world, i.e. how the development and growing significance of co-operation reflected the situation of the ICA. It focuses on the main developmental line of the ICA and co-operative movement, in order to follow its continuity.

The work answers three research questions: how did the world co-operative movement influence the situation of the ICA? Which significant milestones influenced the situation of the ICA? How did the Czech co-operation participate in ICA activities?