

Abstract

The thesis deals with the question of the development of the Old Town Square in Prague as the main public space of the city, where significant moments of European history are expressed and which establishes Czech national memory as a “place of memory“. The findings of memory and spatial studies, which converge on Pierre Nora's theory of the tendency of modern society to anchor the past through the creation of *lieux de mémoire*, are complemented by a historical discussion of individual historical periods of the Czech lands. Through the use of contemporary periodicals, records of assemblies, vignettes, maps, and finally photographs, the interpretation also focuses on the contemporary discourse that was linked to the events on the square, on the basis of which it also provides a reflection on the sites of memory that were created in the context of the Old Town Square during the studied period. Particular attention is paid to a pair of monuments, the Marian Column and the monument to Mister Jan Hus, whose "struggle for space" reflects a number of political, religious, social and other themes of Czech history.