

## **Abstract**

Czechoslovakia underwent a challenging transition from a communist regime to a democratic system in the 1990s. Some Slovak citizens perceived this period as their chance to seek emancipation. This desire, nourished by some political figures, started the division process of the Czechoslovak federation, which resulted in a series of bargaining between the two national prime ministers, Václav Klaus and Vladimír Mečiar. The citizens of the federation were waiting to see how their protracted meetings would unfold. And the only intermediary that could regularly bring them information, were the media. Nevertheless, through its important role of informing the public, the media also has a considerable power to influence what people consider important and what they think about. The way in which the media covered all events that led to the breakup may have had an effect on the public opinion on the existence of Czechoslovakia. This diploma thesis offers a view on how selected Czechoslovak press in 1992 portrayed the main characters of the final split of Czechoslovakia, focusing on the perception of Václav Klaus in Slovak media and Vladimír Mečiar in Czech media.