

## **Abstract**

The aim of the thesis is to analyse the interpretation of the American war in Vietnam by communist propaganda in Czechoslovakia between 1964-1989. Using textual analysis, the thesis examines how communist propaganda through the media, especially the press, reported on the Vietnam War, what image it created of the United States and the Republic of Vietnam during the war, how it perceived the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the role of the Soviet Union in the conflict, and how much it promoted the anti-war movement. The penultimate chapter deals with the image of the Vietnam War in selected media during the Prague Spring, where it gets into some comparison of the media approach in the then Czechoslovakia. The last chapter is a certain interpretation of Western cinema on the mentioned topic. The main source for this topic is the film reviews that appeared in various media, including Rudé Právo. As far as communist propaganda is concerned, the thesis analyses mainly printed media, the exception being audiovisual news in the form of the Czechoslovak film weekly. The thesis is conceived as a qualitative, not quantitative analysis. The purpose is not to analyse and interpret every article from the communist media, but to answer the research questions mentioned above and to present the overall picture of the interpretation of the Vietnam War by communist propaganda in the years mentioned above.

The media in Czechoslovakia at the time saw the United States as more or less the same enemy as it had created after Second World War, and saw the Vietnam War as to some extent a proxy conflict for the Cold War. In this context, the media see the Republic of Vietnam, that is, South Vietnam, as American-dominated vassals. The Soviet Union is seen as the antithesis of the United States, i.e. as a guarantee of peace in the world. Even in terms of strong criticism of the United States, the communist media focuses heavily on the anti-war movement around the world. In doing so, they seek to demonstrate, among other things, the disunity of the United States and the disunity of the Western bloc. The communist media in what was then Czechoslovakia took the conflict in Vietnam as a condemnation worthy of American aggression.