

Abstract

The presented dissertation thesis concentrates on the question of the relationship of the Czech society to the instrument of orders and decorations, which was applied towards it in the past by various political establishments of the Czech lands. The primary interest of the thesis focuses on the first half of the 20th century, but it also looks in detail at the previous context. Methodologically, the thesis approaches the phenomenon of orders and decorations as a so-called *symbolic capital*, which was handled by individual actors (the state, the honoured persons and society) depending on the currently prevailing social conditions.

Key words

Recognition, Status, Prestige, Orders, Medals, Decorations, Society, Army, Law, Politics, Ideology, Habsburg Monarchy, Czechoslovakia, Protectorate, Socialism