

## Description of the main research directions investigated by the institute

The Institute has carried out research in all areas defined by its mission statement during the period of the current evaluation. Other activities that were carried out, but are not directly research related, are addressed in other sections. The three main research areas of the Institute were:

- 1) Research on modern Czech and Central European history, 1848-1948.
- 2) Research on the history of science and scientific institutions in the territory of the Czech lands and Czechoslovakia, especially in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 3) Research in codicology and on the history of the Middle Ages in general.

### 1) Research on modern Czech and Central European history, 1848-1948

This research area forms the most robust research agenda of the Institute. During the evaluation period there were four research teams active in this field: *Comparative and Transnational History*; *Research on Czech Statehood 1848–1948*; *Social and Economic History*; and *T. G. Masaryk and His Collaborators*. Research in this area has also been partly carried out by the team for the *Archival Processing and the Development of the CAS Archive and Record Management Infrastructure*.

Research in the area of modern history thus took place in a number of directions. In terms of comparative and transnational history, the research has emphasized the transnational history of refugeedom in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the comparative history of violence in (East) Central Europe during the First World War, and after the break-up of the Habsburg Empire. The research on refugees and refugeedom tackled the interplay between Nazi Germany (including Austria after the “Anschluß”), Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, resulting in the breath-taking wave of expulsions during 1938. The project explored the restrictive reflex, which resulted in returning refugees at the borders and stricter internal controls. Here, the phenomenon of No Man’s Land emerged as the central object of study. The team has explored its appearance, physical locations, characteristics, rules and interactions, and broader symbolic meanings. The research has situated No Man’s Land and other border policies *vis-à-vis* refugees in the context of the growing body of research on borders and borderlands and the context of citizenship studies. The team found that the exclusion of Jews was part of a broader shift from individualist concepts of citizenship towards the ethnic construction of citizenship across the region. Understanding the connection to the erosion of citizenship in the late 1930s helps to better grasp the broader effect of these exclusionary events, which made the transformation of citizens into rightless and stateless refugees (and later deportees) possible. This research also transposed into broader research on refugees in East-Central Europe throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, generating a successful European Research Council (ERC) proposal for the project (UNREF - Unlikely Refuge? Refugees and Citizens in East-Central Europe in 20<sup>th</sup> Century).

The research activities were also strengthened with the use of digital humanities methods. As a part of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI), the Institute explored the possible contributions of digital humanities to transnational refugee studies. In an applied research project, the Institute (with partners from the public and private sectors) also started developing an extensive digital database of Prague Holocaust victims, using thousands of documents and photographs. This database will lead to a mobile phone application that will allow its users to follow the fates of individual Prague Holocaust victims in the city’s actual space.

The research on the First World War, violence, and imperial break-up unfolded mainly around the comparison of the Bohemian and the Austrian lands, supplemented by further, refining comparisons with South Tyrol as a typical rural area of the Habsburg Monarchy. The research has uncovered that in the context of total war, physical violence became a predominant means of conceptualizing and expressing social-political demands and a means of demarcating various notions of community and belonging throughout the region, regardless

of whether the inhabitants stood on the side of the winners or losers. In other words, physical violence was everywhere productive and generative, not just destructive and degenerative.

However, this line of inquiry has also revealed significant differences across the Habsburg postimperial space, resulting mainly from different experiences of war, victory and defeat. The widespread view of a defeated and humiliated Austrian society hardened barriers between political camps defined by their ideological orientation. These party-political rifts spurred violence and provided a framework for understanding it. In Czechoslovakia, by contrast, the shared confidence and optimism toward the new state imbued the violence with an ethnic-national edge. In South Tyrol, violence after the war became a practice as well as a cultural code that helped to delineate the depressed community against the Italian intruders.

Inspired by these findings, the research went deeper into the interwar period and asked further questions about the repercussions of war violence for the interwar societies. Again, by instrumentalizing the productive Czechoslovak-Austrian comparison the research focused on the comparative analysis of the history of interwar veterans' movements in both countries. For Czechoslovakia, it has shown how the state had to deal with violence as a formative phenomenon of its early state-building and how this experience shaped its policies towards various veteran groups. For the Austrian case, the project has been able to illuminate the passage that many war veterans took from war mobilization to the new remobilization during the political struggle in the 1920s.

This research direction has delivered a new, cultural-historical and comparative perspective on the fall of the Habsburg Monarchy in 1918 and the constitution of its successor states. By analyzing physical violence as a critical component of the transformation "from below," the research reshaped some of the central narratives on the history of (East) Central Europe during and in the aftermath of the First World War. It has also further deepened our understanding of the interwar order and the challenges that the war's remnants posed to it during the 1920s and 1930s.

The research on the history of Czech statehood has offered fresh perspectives on the possibilities and the limits of Czech politics in the Habsburg Monarchy before 1918 and the history of interwar Czechoslovakia. It tackled the (often covert) attempts of the Czech political factions to capture a share of state power. Research on highly placed state officials in the Austrian bureaucracy has demonstrated a gradual nationalistic and political takeover of the Austrian public administration, which was designed to be a pillar that maintained the Habsburg Empire's fragile stability. It also explored state power changes at the local level of district captains, both before and after 1918, showing a surprising level of personal continuity between the Habsburg Empire and interwar Czechoslovakia.

The investigation also concentrated on parliamentary representatives. The Institute (with project partners) started to create a comprehensive database housing key prosopographical data on the lives and on the family and social ties of members of all parliaments from 1848 until 1992. The database represents the first detailed catalogue of its kind and will serve as a starting point for future research projects. The database has already fulfilled this role by serving as the main point of departure for a large project (EXPRO) on the social mobility of political and judicial elites, connecting the imperial and the interwar eras and analyzing these elites' continuity through the rupture of 1918.

The study of the building of interwar Czechoslovakia also scrutinized the practices of commemorations. A set of official national days and the day commemorating the founding of the state was chosen for analysis, as well as the opposition's alternative holidays. By analyzing the performative practices accompanying these crucial and symbolic dates, the research has uncovered the contribution of these new sets of national days to the process of creating a Czechoslovak national identity.

Numerous other interrelated research projects covered the political and economic dimensions of the establishment of Czechoslovakia and dealt with foreign and domestic resistance during the First World War. Research into these topics revealed hitherto unknown aspects of the economic functioning of the Czechoslovak legions in Russia, which subsequently formed one of interwar Czechoslovakia's economic pillars. The research on the domestic resistance was mainly devoted to analyzing the formation of its image in the collective

memory of interwar Czechoslovak society. This surprisingly showed that many elements that were associated with the activities of the Czechoslovak exiles during the First World War were retroactively constructed during the interwar period.

A complementary track was the research into the perceptions of Czechoslovak statehood by its leading figures. The team documented the development of the attitudes of President Edvard Beneš toward the German question as a defining feature of interwar international relations. Research into the mental horizons of leading politicians in the course of both Czechoslovak crises of 1938 and 1948 contributed to a more in-depth analysis of their perceptions of Czechoslovak statehood. The examination of the views of the “defeated” politicians of 1948, who ended up in exile, provided a new interpretive angle, shedding new light on the end of Czechoslovak democracy.

The Institute also productively combined research on religious, social, and economic history. Linking religious history with social history has proven to be a fruitful approach for studying the religiosity of the working class in interwar Czechoslovakia. This line of inquiry has persuasively argued against the generally prevalent ideas of the course, intensity, and effects of secularization in the Czech Lands in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It refuted the notion of the interwar industrial working class as the leading and conscious agent in moving away from religion and religious practice. On the contrary, it has revealed the working class’s striking involvement in the interwar religious revolution and the multi-layered religious life in the Czech Lands between the two world wars.

The research into the religious attitudes of the working class has been further enhanced by research on the social and economic history of industrial work spaces in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Previous research had tended to ignore the role of the state and public authorities. However, the investigation of the Institute has revealed that the construction of factory buildings, the internal division of space, and the establishment of social institutions were not merely the initiative of individual industrialists but reflected also the priorities of the Habsburg Empire. The research also uncovered the importance of knowledge transfer, which was manifested in the construction of factories. British, French, Swiss, and German inspiration in the spatial arrangement of factory buildings appeared to be a significant driving force for designing the workspace in the Habsburg Monarchy. Hence, the research has enriched our current understanding of the industrialization of the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century with a fresh perspective, blending the economic, social, and cultural history of space.

Research on modern history also included building upon the intellectual heritage of the founder of the Institute – the first Czechoslovak president Tomáš G. Masaryk (TGM). The primary scholarly activity here was a critical review of Masaryk’s extensive personal correspondence. An editorial series, *The Correspondence of TGM*, continued to be published, enriching the already issued correspondence with new volumes. While the Institute had already published an extensive series of professionally edited letters between Masaryk and his Czech-speaking peers, it has now turned to Masaryk’s correspondence with his foreign peers. It published (with collaborating partners) a large source edition of the correspondence between Masaryk and the Slavs, bringing together about 1,100 documents. This source edition has disclosed intense contacts between the Czech and South Slav, Polish, Ukrainian, and Russian intellectual landscapes of the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and will serve as an indispensable resource for future research. The same applies to the edition of the correspondence between Masaryk and Slovak public figures between 1918-1937, which illuminates the development of Masaryk’s relationships with the Slovak intelligentsia and political elite, delivering new insights into the political history of interwar Czechoslovakia.

The Institute has also started to assemble and prepare for publication a large body of correspondence between Masaryk and his peers from the United States of America, Great Britain, Germany, France, Italy, and Scandinavia. The goal is not only to prepare further published volumes of the *Correspondence of TGM* series but primarily to digitize Masaryk’s foreign correspondence from the period before 1918 and make it available for advanced analysis using digital humanities methods, such as visualizing the correspondence networks or data mining of large linguistic corpora. In cooperation with other partners (most notably the Oxford University-based project *Early Modern Letters Online – EMLO*), the Institute has

launched a state-of-the-art digital database, *Historical Correspondence Online (HiKo)*. The *HiKo* database is compatible with other international database standards so that it can be linked to similar European infrastructures. Hence, the *HiKo* database is a starting point for a new approach to Masaryk's correspondence and social network, moving the biographical research on Masaryk into the digital humanities realm of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Alongside the intense interest in TGM's correspondence, the Institute also continued publishing the source edition series *The Writings of TGM*, which is one of the most extensive editorial projects in Czech humanities since 1989. Thirty-nine volumes of Masaryk's printed writings have been published so far, and thus this long-term project nears its completion.

## **2) Research on the history of education, science, and scientific institutions in the territory of the Czech lands and Czechoslovakia, especially in the 20<sup>th</sup> century**

This research area was mainly covered by the activities of the team on the *History of Science and Scientists in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Society* and partly by the team on *Archival Processing and the Development of the CAS Archive and Record Management Infrastructure*. The backbone of these scholarly activities was work on a synthetic history of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CSAS). This situated the most important non-university scientific institution in the Czech lands in the 20<sup>th</sup> century within the context of social, cultural and political developments of the second half of the century. The extensive first volume of over 800 pages, covering the period 1952–1962, combines a classic institutional history with biographical and prosopographical investigations. The results of this research convincingly show the dynamically changing position of science, its institutions and scientists in Czechoslovakia in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, thereby making a significant contribution to the understanding of the role of science in this era. The research also focuses on the functioning of the CSAS in the international scientific environment and analyzes in detail the complex relationship between the Czechoslovak and Slovak Academies of Science.

Further research into the history of the CSAS also revealed the efforts of representatives of the Academy to build an important power center in the second half of the 1960s and to introduce elements of scientocracy into the management of socialist society. Research into the CSAS's role in the social changes of 1968 also brought a new perspective, showing that the CSAS and its top representatives were perceived by the public as being part of the establishment, whose authority was being strongly questioned at that time. The analysis of the positions of the two key institutions of science — the CSAS and Charles University (CU) — has led to new insights about the forms of coexistence of the research being done at universities and in the Soviet-style academies of sciences in the countries of the Eastern bloc. The examination of the relationship between the CSAS and CU further led to a comparison of developments between Czechoslovakia and the situation in other states within the Soviet bloc and partly with other Central European countries (Austria).

In addition to the research into the history of the CSAS as a whole, the team has also carried out complimentary research into its individual institutes. This has shown remarkable possibilities for cooperation between social and natural scientists, provided new knowledge on the social position of science and scientific institutions, and also helped us to understand the general mechanisms of interaction between the sciences, scientific institutions, and society. These studies have also significantly contributed to new perspectives on the very topical question of the relationship between basic and applied research, as well as on the history of the funding of non-university research in the interwar era and after 1945.

In the field of research that uses the biographical methods, the most important results were achieved for the history of Czech Orientalism, namely in the research into its founder Alois Musil. Musil's correspondence was successfully utilized to analyze the behavior of actors in the cultural and political field of social networks in interwar Czechoslovakia, thus providing an insight into the "behind the scenes" functioning of the political decision-making regarding science and its institutional background. At the same time, the question of the functioning of the state institutions of interwar Czechoslovakia and the linking of scientific and economic interests are also being reestablished from a different angle. The influential figure of Musil

opens numerous opportunities for research in an international context, particularly in the space of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire and its political, cultural, and economic ambitions in the Orient.

The research into the habitus of Czech scientists between 1918 and 1968 placed the theme of the everyday life and leisure time of the scientists in a historical context, which ties in with the extremely topical subject today of the structure of researchers' time. Another important topic was the functioning of international scientific cooperation and the involvement of Czech scientists in these international networks. At the heart of this research, we questioned the role this aspect played in the functioning of Czech science in general and how the experience with the world of international science influenced the attitudes and habitus of Czech scientists during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Territorially, the research work focused on current issues of scientific help to the developing countries of the Global South. This area was complemented by studies devoted to the scientific and economic relations between interwar Czechoslovakia and the Orient. This analysis of the links between science and economic factors has provided new and extremely important insights for our understanding of the role of science in the mechanisms of international relations.

The Institute's research into the gender aspects of the history of science has analyzed the position of female scientists in Czech and Czechoslovak society in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The analysis has related to the proportions of men and women in scientific work, the reasons that brought more women than men into certain fields, the opportunities for professional growth and building women's scientific careers, as well as the balancing of work and personal life.

The maintenance of large archival collections is an essential part of the Institute's profile and this area of research was enriched by editorial activity that aimed to make the primary sources on the history of science available to the wider research community. In this context, we carried out pioneering research into the history of the German Polytechnic University in Prague (1938–1945), which reconstructs the institutional form of the University and significantly enriches our knowledge of German-language education in the territory of today's Czech Republic.

Research into the personalities of Czech science is an important part of the Institute's work and is being supported over the long-term. This has resulted in several publications on the leading figures of various scientific disciplines, such as the monograph *War Surgeon František Burian and the Birth of Czech Plastic Surgery*. This is a unique source for the modern history of medicine, which showcases a collection of the medical records of Burian's patients from the Balkan wars and demonstrates how war wounds provided the motivation for the development of plastic surgery. The edition *Josef Charvát in Times of Hope and Frustrations: Diaries from 1946–1949* also deals with the history of medicine in a broader context. The diary entries of Josef Charvát, the founder of Czech endocrinology, are remarkable historical sources, providing new insights into the history of science in Czechoslovakia during the Second World War.

### **3) Research in codicology and on the history of the Middle Ages in general.**

This research area was covered by the activities of the team on *Codicology: Study and Cataloguing of Manuscripts*. Its subject of study was literary manuscripts in the broad timeframe stretching from the Middle Ages to the early modern period. The long-term task in this area remains to make available the manuscript collections in the Czech Republic and the Manuscript Bohemica from Abroad in the framework of the so-called *General Catalogue of Manuscripts*. Today, a modern form of access is provided by the digital *Database of Manuscripts and Bibliography of Codicological Literature (Manuscript Database)*. An important step forward was the integration of the *Manuscript Database* into the newly emerging portal *Knihověda.cz* ([www.knihoveda.cz](http://www.knihoveda.cz)), which aims to create a virtual environment for research into Czech book culture to the year 1800, responding to the demands for an interdisciplinary research infrastructure in the humanities as well as to the new trends in the digital humanities. The content of the *Manuscript Database* is based on updated documents collected during the

preparation of five volumes of the *Guide to Manuscript Collections in the Czech Republic*, published by the researchers of the Institute between 1995 and 2011. Converting the data into an electronic format allows for the immediate addition of data and related literature and for the rapid updating of the data if there are new developments.

There has been a clear progress in making Manuscript Bohemica from Abroad available. Researchers working on Hussitism will especially appreciate the modern catalogue of the Manuscript Bohemica, stored in the Palatine Library, which has been part of the Vatican library since 1623. Its publication was the culmination of a long study of the Vatican Manuscript Bohemica, the roots of which go back to as early as the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The vast majority of the manuscripts that were made available date to the Middle Ages, mainly from the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, and are valuable sources for the Czech reform movement and the situation in post-Hussite Bohemia. The research on the Bohemicas from Abroad has gained a new impetus from the study of the emigration of Catholic clergy from Bohemia and Moravia during the Hussite Wars. The analysis of hitherto unknown sources as well as the inventory of exile manuscripts has contributed to the mapping of the fates and life strategies of Catholic clerics, who fled from the Hussites to domestic Catholic enclaves and beyond the borders of the Bohemian lands.

The examination of the exile manuscripts themselves and the documents associated with them has brought to light the mass evacuation of books and entire libraries (especially of Church institutions) to outside the Czech lands, where these collections were often fragmented, pawned or sold. It can therefore be assumed that research on the Bohemicas from Abroad still has a considerable research potential and will lead to further enrichment of our knowledge in the future.

In addition to making manuscripts accessible, other research focused on specialized groups of manuscripts. The processing of illuminated manuscripts stored in Czech archives, which were often not well-known in scholarly literature, has progressed significantly. Making these manuscripts available has made it possible to gain a new appreciation of their artistic decoration, as is the case with the Bible of Peter Zmrzlík of Svojšíň. The decoration of this Bible, in older literature considered to be of average craftsmanship, is in fact the work of several illuminators, some of whom were amongst the most advanced in pre-Hussite Bohemia.

A completely new topic in this area is the study of music manuscripts, which the Institute began in 2019 in the frame of the large Czech Science Foundation EXPRO project, together with Charles University. The aim of the project is to deepen our understanding of Czech musical culture during the late Middle Ages and to revise several established myths of the musical culture of the Hussites, which took root during the formation of Czech and later Czechoslovak identities in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The core of this project is the in-depth study of a group of five representative medieval and early Renaissance manuscripts, thus creating ideal conditions for the involvement of the *Codicology* team. The main manuscript under scrutiny is the Jistebnice hymn book from the 1420s, which is one of the most significant landmarks of musical and literary culture of the Czech and European Middle Ages. It is therefore a great success to be able to publish its first critical edition, which explored this unique cultural monument in a broader cultural and historical context.

## Research activity and characterisation of the main scientific results

The team focused on two main research areas during the evaluation period:

- 1) the possibilities and the limits of Czech politics in the multinational monarchy,**
- 2) the First Republic: the practice and the perception of statehood.**

The team carries out research in these two areas. The results of its research are presented in scholarly monographs and articles published in Czech and international journals and in collective monographs, critical editions, and conference proceedings. The team's research activities have expanded into the digital humanities using an extensive array of primary sources, which the team analyses and subsequently makes available in electronic databases. The team also presents the results of its activities at Czech and international conferences and seminars and in lectures and workshops (e.g., in Belfast, Vienna, Bratislava, and Berlin). Some of those presentations have received positive attention in Czech media and have been reported in newspapers, radio, and television.

### **1) The Possibilities and Limits of Czech Politics in the Multinational Monarchy**

Research in the history of parliamentarism, which has a long tradition at the Masaryk Institute in connection with the political activities of T. G. Masaryk, has proceeded in two ways. On the one hand, it focused on the interaction between political parties and the public administration. We have researched the activities of the Czech political parties in the Austrian constitutional system and the Young Czech political faction's attempts to gain access to control over the state power. Given the situation in the Habsburg Monarchy, the "struggle for the state" often took place covertly, at the level of personal politics, as the party tried to place its own people into high-ranking positions in the bureaucratic apparatus. Research on the careers of Austrian state officials in the last decades of the Monarchy has demonstrated a gradual permeation of the Austrian public administration with nationalist and political programs, which, in result, undermined one of the pillars maintaining the fragile stability of the Danube empire.

Members of the team have approached the traditional political history from a new perspective of state power and its representatives. In the Czech case, they succeeded in demonstrating the extent to which the milieus of high politics and the state administration were densely inter-linked. Relying on archival sources of both official and private nature, their studies convincingly show the dynamic tension between loyalty to the state on the one hand and loyalty to political parties founded upon national and local interests on the other. They have concluded that these loyalties were not a priori mutually exclusive, yet, the state administration, which was meant to dampen national conflicts, became itself an object of a political fight as the parties tried to consolidate their positions. This conflict was exceptionally dangerous to the state's stability, particularly in the crisis years of the First World War. [ASEP [0481680](#), [0456604](#), [0478903](#)]

The team's research results are also being elaborated in a project focused on the changes in state power at the local level, for example, in the activities of district commissioners in both the Habsburg monarchy and interwar Czechoslovakia. The team has focused its attention on the relationship between the state and governing bodies outside the main administrative centers. Districts with various nationalities, social groups, and political elements among their populations have been chosen as subjects for research and examined using records of local authorities and sources originating in the capitals. The tension between local and state authorities was expressed on a personal level in conflicts where district commissioners opposed elected district officials and local mayors. These conflicts reflected the state power's character and the limits established by the nascent civil society. [ASEP [0497975](#), [0495016](#), [0532100](#), [0521665](#)]

The second track is research into political culture, for example, on elections to provincial and nationwide representative bodies in the Czech Lands in the years 1861–1938, using digital humanities methods. This broadly conceived research was conducted the framework of the National and Cultural Identity (NAKI II) project, run in cooperation with the National Museum of the Czech Republic and the Institute for Study of Totalitarian Regimes (ÚSTR). The result has been the creation of a database housing the key data gained from archival research into

the lives and the family and social ties of individual parliamentarians and Senators, along with their political activities in and out of Parliament. The database represents the first detailed catalog of the political elites active in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia. It is a method for further refining and expanding existing data and a tool for evaluating a large, extensive data set. To increase the usefulness of the database and its further expansion, in 2019, the team successfully competed for EXPRO funding from the Czech Science Foundation, in cooperation with the University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania. The project's main objective is research on the social mobility of political and judicial elites, not only under the system of representation in the Habsburg monarchy but also after that system broke down. The team takes a unique approach that analyzes the continuity of the elites through changes in the regime. The project is innovative on several levels, including the historical methods it uses (developed by scholars of the MÚA, the co-investigator of the project) and the application of quantitative methods in demography (traditionally used by the lead investigator of the project, the Faculty of Science of Charles University). This cooperation between historians and demographers takes advantage of all the possibilities offered by those methods and other digital humanities tools to achieve results that would be difficult to obtain using standard historical methodologies.

A database containing tens of thousands and even hundreds of thousands of data points on individual members of the elites and their family members is being created using both approaches' synergies. The data will reveal family ties, institutional associations, and joint activities in various professional disciplines, which will allow us to reconstruct the professional, family, economic and other networks that interconnected the key actors in the public life of the Habsburg monarchy and its successor, the Czechoslovak Republic.

## **2) The First Republic: The Practice and Perception of Statehood**

Another critical area of research closely linked to the mission of the MÚA is interwar Czechoslovakia and its perception. The team concentrates its efforts on research into the practice of commemoration. A set of official holidays and commemorative days celebrating the new state have been chosen for analysis, as well as the opposition's alternative holidays. The goal is to uncover the contribution of the new set of holidays to the process of constructing a Czechoslovak national identity. Individual holidays and commemorative days, such as the President's birthday, Labor Day, the anniversary of the Battle of Zborov, Jan Hus Day, Saints Cyril and Methodius Day, St. Wenceslas Day, and Independence Day (October 28) have already received the attention of historians. The team paid attention not only to the legislative basis of the national days and the reasons for establishing them but mainly to the commemorative praxis and to the performative dimension of celebrations. The team analyzed the iconography and the visual aspects of the festivities. Unlike other research, the subject matter was approached in the context of the entire multinational state.

Thus, an essential part of the research was the national, social, and religious dimensions of the national days. The continued existence of a holiday celebrating the founding of the state indicates that the rituals and forms remained the same even as the celebration's object changed. One conclusion of the research was that some aspects of the state — the bureaucracy and the military, played an important role in accepting the official calendar. A distinctive pedagogical impact of the national days had also been acknowledged. The research confirmed the hypothesis that the national days and festivities influenced the formation of national identity [ASEP 0496158].

A complementary track was research into the perceptions of the First Republic by its leading figures. The team documented the development of the attitudes of President Edvard Beneš toward the Germans living in the Czech lands, his vision for solving the national question in the First Czechoslovak Republic, and his views on the position the Republic should take in its relations with Germany and Austria. It appears from the President's efforts to improve relations between Czechs and Germans that there was still a chance for the two national groups to coexist in the mid-1930s. However, that opportunity was never fully taken advantage of [ASEP 0447957, 0448563]. Similarly, research into the actions of leading politicians in the Czechoslovak crisis of 1938 contributed to a more in-depth analysis of their perceptions of Czechoslovak statehood. The research also significantly enhanced our knowledge of the anti-



capitulation activities of parts of the political spectrum, the everyday life of First Republic politicians, how they worked, their mutual relationships, and how they gathered information. In their research efforts, the members of the team worked with newly discovered private documents [ASEP [0463201](#), [0481540](#), [0447808](#)].

Another contribution to the study of Czechoslovak statehood is found in our analysis of the critical days of February 1948, which led to the defeat of the democratic political parties and the country's absorption into the Soviet Bloc. We chose to study the views of the “defeated” politicians in exile, which provided us a different psychological perspective and interpretive angle on the events and important historical actors of February 1948. We were able to shed light on their actions in the wider historical, economic and political contexts to understand what information they were receiving and their approaches to the questions of guilt and self-reflection. [ASEP [0486683](#)]

The most important output, the concept, and structure of which were discussed and prepared by the research team, was a monograph, *The Czechoslovak Republic 1918–1939* [ASEP [0495304](#)]. A professional expert supervised the preparation of each chapter of the monograph, four of whom (of the five current members of the research team) were members of this team. Dagmar Hájková and Pavel Horák were the lead editors of the volume. They were able to secure the collaboration of other academic institutes in the Czech Republic and abroad in preparing the publication. More than sixty renowned experts on the subject matter authored contributions to the project. With its extensive collection of authors, the book is nevertheless a cohesive whole that presents the reader with different current views and approaches to the history of interwar Czechoslovakia. The comprehensive publication covers one of the most critical periods in Czech history in a well-arranged, accessible format.

In more than a thousand pages, the book gives a considered interdisciplinary overview of all the regions of the interwar state. Heretofore, such overviews and comprehensive treatments have focused mostly on the Czech lands. The book combines chronological and thematic approaches. Its contents offer different ways to enjoy it: one can read it systematically or look for specific facts and issues. For that reason, it is especially useful for schools. The book can also be used as an overview of the contemporary historiography of the First Republic. It covers some little-known areas and phenomena and suggests possible future research directions. The publication of the book was timed to coincide with the hundredth anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia. It is one of the most important and complex works produced at that time. Besides their direct contributions to the book as authors, team members ensured its organization and editing as its editors-in-chief and as supervisors of its individual chapters.

## Research activity and characterisation of the main scientific results

The team was established during the evaluation period as part of the research and administrative reorganization of the Institute, in which the former Department for Research and Source Editions was disbanded into smaller research teams. The team was created because of the need to consolidate and concentrate research on Masaryk and to seek out new possibilities in research, publications, digital humanities, and popularization.

During the evaluation period, the team's research focused on T. G. Masaryk as an important figure in various social, cultural, media, and other contexts from a domestic and international perspective. With the conclusion of a long-term project to edit the collected writings of T. G. Masaryk, the team's priority has shifted to a critical review of Masaryk's extensive personal correspondence, including adding it to a digital database that meets European standards. In recent years, an editorial series, *The Correspondence of TGM*, has been published in several volumes that cover Masaryk's relations with members of the political elites and his close collaborators (including Bedřich Hlaváč, Edvard Beneš, Karel Kramář, Josef Kaizl, and Antonín Švehla). Masaryk's correspondence with those individuals was mainly in Czech. The team's work has therefore moved to a new level, focusing on his international contacts in key areas. This new research and editorial direction is heuristically complicated (given the fragmented state of the archival sources and frequent difficulties in accessing them), as well as being linguistically, editorially, interpretively, and not least financially burdensome. The team has succeeded in obtaining support for some of its projects from the Czech Science Foundation, the National and Cultural Identity (NAKI) Program of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, and the Czech Academy of Sciences' Strategy AV21 program. In 2014 and 2015 the MUA was the lead institute for the project *TGM and the Slavs*, conducted in cooperation with the Institute of History of CAS, for which Vratislav Doubek was the lead researcher. In the course of that project, in which experienced editors, historians of Slavic cultures, archivists, and doctoral students participated, the team was able to process an enormous number of documents (1,700 in all). Based on that information, the team traced Masaryk's contacts within East-Central and Southern Europe, and how he was received by the cultural, academic, and political elites in those regions. The result of the project was two extensive volumes of correspondence covering the period from the 1880s to the end of Masaryk's life in 1937 [ASEP [0449731](#), [0458256](#)]. The book contains 1,100 documents from correspondents in Russia and Ukraine and 89 from those in Poland. It also includes a study that places Masaryk's relationships with academic, media, political, and Czechoslovak exile circles into their historical contexts. The publication is an extremely valuable resource for historians, Slavists, philosophers, and others.

In another book, *TGM a slovenští veřejní činitelé. 1918–1937* [Correspondence between T. G. Masaryk and Slovak Public Officials. 1918–1937] [ASEP [0511373](#)], the editors, Jan Rychlík, Richard Vašek, and Miroslav Lacko describe the development of Masaryk's relationships with the Slovak intelligentsia and political elite, including Vavro Šrobár, Andrej Hlinka, Štefan Osuský, Vladimír Hurban, Štefan Krčméry, and others. In addition, they outline the development of the relationship between the inhabitants of the Slovak part of Czechoslovakia and President Masaryk. Besides letters and telegrams, the book contains a number of memoranda and requests. In just a little under 500 pages, the authors annotate 279 documents with detailed, unbiased text and commentary. The publication is a source for the study of the history of "Czechoslovakism" and the First Czechoslovak Republic.

Another major area in which the team worked in cooperation with other research teams during the evaluation period – mainly with the team for Research on Czech Statehood 1848–1948 and the team on Archival Processing and the Development of the CAS Archive and Record Management Infrastructure – was the presentation of Masaryk's correspondence with colleagues in Great Britain, USA, Germany, France, Italy, and Scandinavia. With support from the Strategy AV21 program and a four-year NAKI project (*The International Correspondence Network of T. G. Masaryk and the Founding of Czechoslovakia in 1918*, started on 1 March 2018), working groups were created to review correspondence found in the archives of the

TGM Institute and other correspondence found in extensive research in other Czech and foreign archives. The goal of the working groups is not only to prepare new printed volumes in the Masaryk correspondence series (to be published in 2021), but also to digitize Masaryk's foreign correspondence from before 1918. The review of the sources has thus moved on to a new stage. In cooperation with the Library of the CAS, the Institute of Philosophy of CAS, and Professor Howard Hotson of Oxford University (which houses the Early Modern Letters Online [EMLO] database), since 2019 the team has been developing a database, *Historical Correspondence Online (HiKo)*, <<https://historicka-korespondence.cz/>>. The HiKo database will be compatible with standards used by other databases such as EMLO, so that in the future it can be linked to similar European infrastructures. Emphasis will nevertheless be placed on the expertise of our editors, whose knowledge of the sources and the subject matter will allow us to put online not only the basic metadata of the correspondence (date, place of sending and receipt, etc.) but also metadata on key words and the professions of Masaryk's correspondents. The HiKo database is a starting point for a new approach to Masaryk's correspondence from the perspective of social networking. Experienced editors, archivists, and historians are participating in the project, along with doctoral students and colleagues from other institutions (the National Archives and the Collegium Carolinum in Munich).

The research activities on TGM's correspondence in the evaluation period also focused on intellectual, cultural, and literary history. Thanks to financing from the Czech Science Foundation and the Strategy AV21 program, the team reviewed extensive correspondence (about 500 documents) that passed between Masaryk and a prominent figure in Czech literary modernism, the poet Josef Svatopluk Machar. The importance of this project, headed by Helena Kokešová, is demonstrated by the great media attention that was paid to its first volume, which was published in 2017 (see the section on Outreach, below). To a great extent this project focuses on the activities of intellectuals in the public sphere and the connections between art, literature, and politics. The project is changing the paradigms of research into Czech literary modernism at the turn of the twentieth century, as well as the tense relations between Prague and Vienna, where Machar and Masaryk were both active [ASEP [0474759](#), [0501660](#)].

A project *Found in Translation? Emil Saudek and Jewish-Czech-German Interaction in the "Creative Milieu" of Vienna* begun in 2018. It runs in cooperation with the Institute for Literary Studies (IPSL), it also covers literary and cultural history. It includes an interdisciplinary team of historians and literary scholars (Bohemists and Germanists), led by Lucie Merhautová. Its research is focused on the mediating role of Jewish translators between Czech- and German-language literature and culture, mostly in the multicultural milieu of Vienna and Prague. It takes the point of view of actors who have been marginalized or even invisible in historical research so far. The translators linked in their activities constituted ethnically, politically, culturally, and artistically diverse groups. Research is therefore focused on the multicultural nature of the Habsburg Monarchy and questions of cultural continuity and discontinuity after 1918. This project builds on previous publications by Merhautová and Doubek regarding the collaboration between Czech and Viennese moderns in the Vienna weekly newspaper *Die Zeit*. Other such publications include a monograph by Merhautová, *Parallels and Intersections* from 2016 [ASEP [0460458](#)], which was devoted to the penetration of Czech literature into the German-language environment, with the help of journals and various other mediators. The subject of Czech intellectuals in Vienna is covered by further research – Helena Kokešová's biography, *Eduard Albert (1841-1900): Český intelektuál ve Vídni* (Eduard Albert (1841-1900): A Czech Intellectual in Vienna), is devoted to the prominent surgeon and lobbyist in political affairs, and cultural mediator of Czech origin. The monograph was published in 2015 [ASEP [0440550](#)], and a German translation is planned by the Böhlau Publishing House for 2021. International interest in this topic is shown by the cooperation of Kokešová with Gerold Holzer of the Medical University of Vienna on two studies, and financial support for the publication from the Austrian Orthopedic Society and the Austrian Surgical Society.

The team also devoted time to Masaryk's journalistic activities during the first Czechoslovak Republic. An insightful monograph by Richard Vašek, "*Račte to podepsat libovolnou šifrou.*" *Prezident Masaryk jako anonymní publicista (1918–1935)* ("Sign it with any nom de plume you wish": President Masaryk as an anonymous journalist, 1918–1935) [ASEP 0497554], is the result of research into the anonymous journalistic and literary activities (including literary criticism) with which Masaryk tried to influence public opinion. Vašek's research shows that Masaryk's anonymous writings were part of Prague Castle's strategy and involved the President in contemporary political disputes. The book reveals the role of Masaryk's close associates (for example, his literary secretaries) and reconstructs the paths by which his texts found their way into print.

Milan Hanyš devotes himself in several studies to the changes in Masaryk's thinking on the question of women's emancipation within the intellectual context of the Czech lands, and the concepts of gender and intersubjectivity in English philosophy (for example of John Stuart Mill) [ASEP 0496271]. He shows that while Masaryk was much less radical and advanced than many actors in the women's movement in the 1870s and 1880s, by the mid-1890s he had formulated a new position. He pays special attention to Masaryk's unique "feminist" reading of literature and moral sociology, which understood women's emancipation as part of the historical pursuit of eternal human ideals.

The team also contributed to the preparation of *Spisy TGM* (The Collected Writings of TGM), which is one of the most extensive editorial projects in the Czech humanities since 1989, and which at this time is close to completion. In 2019, Jana Malínská prepared a large volume with the title *Programy Masarykových politických stran. Texty z let 1900–1912* (The Programs of Masaryk's Political Parties: Texts from 1900–1912) [ASEP 0502371]. The published texts are concerned with the programs and organizational details of two political parties – the Czech People's Party and the Czech Progressive Party – which Masaryk headed in the years 1900 to 1914. The book is supplemented by Masaryk's speeches to parliament and is an important source for research into the Realist Party, which up to now has not received a significant treatment.

The *Encyclopedia of the Life and Works of T. G. Masaryk* is a long-term interdisciplinary project run by the team, which began in 2015. The objective of the encyclopedia is to bring together the current state of knowledge. Although there is a German tradition of similar handbooks, this project is unprecedented in the Czech Republic. It aims to join an academic orientation with a popular approach, and provide precise, reliable, and understandable information. In preparing this work, the team cooperates with about 40 external authors from the Czech Republic and abroad. The encyclopedia will present in alphabetically arranged entries the life story, activities, ideas, political struggles, and legacy of T. G. Masaryk. There will be uniformly structured dictionary entries devoted to all of Masaryk's published works, but also more extensive articles dealing with his contributions to various academic disciplines (philosophy, sociology, psychology, aesthetics, literary science, and linguistics), with his relationships with specific areas of culture and art (fiction, music, fine arts, and film), and with selected nations and states and their cultural and political particularities. Team members make up the majority of the authors of the encyclopedia entries, whose work is directed and managed by three executive editors. Josef Tomeš and Lucie Merhautová are editing the actual text of the entries, preparing illustrations, and monitoring adherence to the concept of the work. Jana Malínská is verifying and correcting the individual entries and is preparing a bibliography.

Along with the encyclopedia, which will contain an immense amount of factual information that needs to be verified, Jana Malínská (in cooperation with external associates Lukáš Holeček and Tereza Šnellerová) has prepared the first complete bibliography of Masaryk's works published from 1876 to 2020, which contains 4,028 entries and will be issued in a book format in 2021.

During the evaluation period several studies in the field of political history, political thought, and political parties have been finalized by the team. In 2010–2014, the research project *Edvard Beneš, the Germans, and Germany* was completed. Most of the volumes connected to this project were published in 2015 and 2016, with the participation of team

members Richard Vašek and Jana Malínská. The book describes the relationship of Edvard Beneš with the Germans in both Austria and Germany during his time as Minister of Foreign Affairs (vol. II/1 1919–1928 [ASEP 0450105], vol. II/2 1929–1935 [ASEP 0469836]) and as President (vol. III/1 1935–1936 [ASEP 0447957], vol. III/2 1937–1938 [ASEP 0448563]). Many heretofore unpublished documents from Czech and foreign archives, and a number of newspaper articles, are edited with a commentary in this unique collection. It contains Beneš's speeches, parliamentary debates, conversations, telegrams, and cables written by foreign diplomats regarding their meetings with Beneš. The first two volumes mentioned above relate to efforts to establish the young Republic in the field of international relations. The volumes covering the 1930s record the positions Beneš took as minister, and later as President, with regard to the Sudeten German mass movement, the *Heimatfront*, and his efforts to maintain good relations with Germany and Austria.

The monograph *Nás bylo málo jen, než přišly tisíce... Česká strana státoprávně pokroková /1908–1918/* (There Were Only Few of Us before Thousands Came... The Czech Constitutional Progressive Party, 1908–18) was published in 2018 and consummates the long-term research of team member Josef Tomeš [ASEP 0494494]. It describes the history of the Progressive Party, which was a unique phenomenon in Czech politics before the First World War and in the interwar years. The Party was the first one on the Czech political scene that recognized the opportunity presented by the anticipated (and from its view, hoped for) European war for the resolution of the Czech question and the creation of a sovereign Czech state independent of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, with the support of the Allied powers. The Party's members were active in the domestic and foreign resistance during the First World War. After Czechoslovakia was founded, the party was disbanded and its members formed an important wing of the Czechoslovak National Democratic Party that positioned itself against Prague Castle.

Team members Josef Tomeš and Richard Vašek also cooperated in the publication of so far unknown memoirs written by prominent Czechoslovak politicians, for example by cabinet ministers Vlastimil Klíma [ASEP 0481540] and Jiří Havelka [ASEP 0447808], in the year 1938 and the war years that followed. Among them is the extensive memoir of Czech National Democratic Party politician and journalist František Ježek (1890–1969), who was a minister in the last coalition government of the First Republic from March to September 1938. On the basis of his reminiscences, Ježek reconstructs the meetings of the coalition's "political cabinet." No official protocols of those confidential meetings were kept, but Ježek provides detailed documentation regarding the opinions and discussions of the leading Czechoslovak politicians at the time of the Munich agreement [ASEP 0463201].

Vratislav Doubek contributed to research on Czechoslovakism by an international working group of Czech and Slovak experts, coordinated by the Institute for Contemporary History of the CAS. The goal of the working group was to evaluate the important factors influencing Czecho-Slovak statehood in the twentieth century, a concept that always has been and remains controversial. Czechoslovakism was a political concept linked to the establishment and development of two nations, the Czech and the Slovak, with different historical, economic, and political contexts. It was refashioned in the twentieth century to support the interests of a unified Czecho-Slovak state.

In three workshops and a collective monograph, the project presented both experts and the wider public with a discussion of the viewpoints of the current generation of historians on the subject. An English-language version of the volume is now in preparation. Doubek's contribution to the project conceptualizes Czechoslovakism as a political program of Czech and Slovak coexistence in the period before the First World War. Based on an analysis of the concepts of statehood and politics held by the liberal elite, Doubek shows how Czechoslovakism was perceived from the beginning by both the Czech and Slovak sides as insufficiently supportive of their national interests. Its usefulness became more apparent with the destabilization of the Austro-Hungarian system after the outbreak of the First World War.

In 2017 and 2018, in connection with the eightieth anniversary of Masaryk's birth and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia, the members of the team were

particularly active in the area of popularization of science (for more, see the section on Outreach, below). In 2017, the internet portal *In the Footsteps of T. G. Masaryk* <<http://tg-masaryk.cz/>> was created. It contains an interactive map that covers a number of locations and illustrates Masaryk's life and professional path through the interwar territory of the Czechoslovak Republic and beyond (including his residences, places associated with his academic and political activities, his travels, public lectures, and so on). The map aims to point (mainly through monuments and their histories) to the politically driven erasure of Masaryk's activities and legacy from the cultural memory of Czechoslovak regions and their citizens. The map is a result of the cooperation of the team with a range of local institutions (universities, museums, archives, and associations), municipalities, and individuals. The portal provides information about other activities, such as lectures, including ones open to the public, workshops for students, and so on. The portal is also linked with a Facebook page of the same name.

## Research activity and characterisation of the main scientific results

Between 2015–2019, the research team developed three main projects analyzing the phenomenon of ultramontanism, the religious life of the working-class and the social and cultural history of industrial architecture in the Czech lands in the European context. The team also devoted some attention to the topics of the history of the welfare state, nationalism, and women's rights. Besides the main and complementary areas of research, the team also undertook activities to popularize its research results.

### A) Ultramontanism

From the start of the team's project on ultramontanism, we have worked with the renowned international research training group Religious Cultures in 19th and 20th-century Europe run by the Collegium Carolinum and the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) in Munich, Germany, and led by Prof. Martin Schulze Wessel. Thanks to this partnership, we have been able to organize joint workshops, participate in their summer school programs, and involve our doctoral students in the joint project. The cooperation has allowed the team to examine the theoretical underpinnings of its work more deeply. We have been able to put our research on Czech religious history into the wider context of similar projects under way in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Poland. This comparative perspective has allowed us to better integrate our interpretation of ultramontanism and secularization in the Czech lands into the broader framework of the history of ideas in Central Europe.

Our work so far has focused on the interpretation of political history (anticlericalism) or on Church history (the papacy, national Catholicism). We have been able to show that ultramontanism's emphasis on invoking the authority of the Pope was a cultural code that was used in the Czech community to solidify the Church internally, and to defend it and even go on the attack in the media. In our study of the period from the 1820s to the years 1938-39, we stressed the continuity of ultramontanist practices and conflicts, which historiography often divides into two periods, using the First World War as the dividing line. We defined the role religious leaders played in the creation of cultural codes and precisely identified particular generations of priests. We showed how basic elements of priestly identity changed over time.

The studies produced during the project show how political and cultural thought in the Czech lands (including the German-speaking population) gradually diverged from the Church and the papacy. A mass Catholic movement never arose in the Czech lands, as it did in Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. Rather, there was temporary and situational use of the religious and quasi-religious ideas of the Hussites and the Bohemian Reformation. [ASEP [0502401](#), [0478976](#), [0472955](#), [0503601](#)]

### B) Religious Life of the Working Class

The project on the religious life of the working class was situated from its beginning at the intersection of social, urban, and religious history. It focused on the religious life of the industrial working class in the Czech lands in the period between the wars, taking the towns Jablonec nad Nisou, Kladno, Ostrava and Zlín as examples. This research analyzed the role and meanings of religion in the public sphere as well as in the private life of the working class. It started from an assumption that the influence of religion rises and falls in every economic and social context, whether pre-industrial, industrial, or post-industrial. Although the project followed up on previous Czech sociological research work on the religion of laborers, the ethnography of the working class and the beginnings of urban anthropology, it produced the very first Czech monograph focused on the religious life of the industrial working class at the peak of its presence in the Czech lands. In this regard, the team's attention to the history of religion as a social practice was innovative.

The project examined three main topics and the way they intertwine – religious (and secular) institutions, the religiosity of the working class, and the social question. The research outlined the polemics associated with the generally prevalent ideas in the course, intensity, and effects of secularization in the Czech lands in the first half of the 20th century. It refuted the ideas of the interwar industrial working class as the main and conscious agent in the

process of the move away from religion and religious practice. On the contrary, this project has emphasized the involvement of the working class in the interwar religious revolution, the conversional movement, and the multi-layered religious life of the Czech lands between the wars. [ASEP [0510724](#), [0496403](#)]

The project was international in scope. Three of its studies have been published in established foreign journals [ASEP [0504218](#), [0482018](#), [0481137](#)]. Team members participated in several foreign conferences (in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and Slovenia). A final monograph with the results of this research project was published in 2020 by the Academia Publishing House as part of its series on *Czech modern history*.

### **C) The Industrial Architecture of the Czech Lands in the European Context**

This project has utilized a new approach to scholarly research that connects the social history and the economic history of the Habsburg Monarchy in the second half of the 19th century. The team's project revealed that the construction of factory buildings, the division of space on the factory floor, and the establishment of related social institutions did not come about at the initiative of individual industrialists. Rather, they were influenced by social legislation within the imperial state. Previous research into factory buildings has tended to ignore the role of the state and public authorities. Likewise, the impact of social legislation on industrial concerns and social institutions has not been examined systematically. The relevance of our research lies in its finding of a synergistic effect that arose among the state, public administration, and private enterprise. Many factories were established and operated in the Cisleithanian economic area during the 19th century. Factory owners, engineers, technicians and even some workers had "transnational" mobility, and as a result there were important transfers of knowledge when the factories were being built, designed by British, French, Swiss and German experts. The team's project considered how these experts contributed to the changing face of Bohemian, Moravian, and Silesian factories.

As the literature demonstrates, the social and economic preconditions for the emergence of modern factories varied significantly in different parts of the world. In England and the United States of America, conditions were different from those in western and Central Europe. Likewise, conditions varied within the Habsburg Monarchy, within the Bohemian Lands, and even within smaller regions. Natural conditions, energy resources, the traditions of cottage weaving industry, and the location of existing textile manufactories determined where new textile mills would be built. A "new economy of space" transformed the outward appearance and inner layout of factory buildings. In the 19th century, the early textile mills were transformed into standard multi-story buildings with rectangular floorplans. Many examples of these have survived until today. The transformation of the architecture of factory buildings and the differences between them were visible in factory canteens, washrooms, sickrooms, and libraries. Preserved blueprints and early photographs depicted factories as buildings that harmoniously integrated industrial production, wage labor, and the environment. Idealized images of symmetrically arranged factory buildings that were organically integrated into their immediate environment, surrounded by other widely spaced buildings or a gradually receding natural landscape, elicit a sense that a past order has been irreversibly lost. It is not without reason that the ideal arrangement of modern factories is often compared to a social utopia.

However, written sources provide a different view of the modern factory than do contemporary drawings and photographs. According to preserved reports, recorded statements made by textile workers, and the recollections of rank-and-file employees, factory buildings were stressful, dirty, dusty, and messy places. The project charted the genealogy of industrial modernity, documenting ideas about the modern factory that wed technology and social issues. The project contributing to answering the question of what technological and social progress meant for everyday lives in factories. [ASEP [0507043](#), [0481560](#)]



**D) Other research activities**

Other activities have developed the team's expertise in the history of the welfare state, nationalism, identity, and women's rights. The team's largest individual project focused on social policy and nationalism in Nazi-occupied Bohemia and Moravia (published in *Nazism Across Borders*, 2018 [ASEP [0535120](#)] and as a monograph in November 2020). The project aimed to reshape the existing knowledge and interpretation of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. The research traces the continuities in the social security system in Czechoslovakia before, during and after the Second World War, highlighting its two main features: racism and national segregation. The team's outcomes challenge the interpretation of the Nazi occupation period that prevails in Czech and international historiography, which places emphasis on the moments of rupture.

## Research activity and characterisation of the main scientific results

Between 2015 and 2019, the team pursued two main axes of research that were supplemented by smaller, complementary research projects and partially supported by the digital humanities methods. The two main directions of research were transnational refugee studies and comparative studies of modern wars and violence, particularly in the context of the First World War. These main areas of research were complemented by targeted research on other topics and activities intended to popularize the research results. In practice, the research areas occasionally overlapped and often yielded similar, mutually compatible results. For the sake of clarity, we deal with each area of research separately.

### A) Transnational Refugee Studies

Before undertaking broader research on refugees in the twentieth century, the team started by examining the particular case of East-Central European refugees on the eve of the Second World War. The research tackled the shocking expulsions of ethnic minorities from several of the new nations formed after the First World War, which took place between March and December 1938 and which have never been analyzed in detail using a comparative method. Building on detailed research into the fast-paced events of 1938, we used that fateful year as an “observatory” from which to analyze the shift in attitudes towards the exclusion of refugees and the erosion of the value of citizenship. Geographically, the team examined the interplay of forces between Nazi Germany (including Austria after the *Anschluss*), Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary.

Inspired by critical research carried out in western European countries, the team has challenged the prevailing national historiographies to discuss the reflexive restrictions that resulted in turning refugees away at the borders of Central European countries and tougher internal immigration controls. Few phenomena illustrate the qualitative changes brought by the “fateful” year of 1938 as well as the concept of the No Man’s Land. The team has therefore explored how and why the No Man’s Lands appeared, their physical locations, characteristics, rules, and human interactions as well as their broader, figurative meaning. The research has situated the No Man’s Land, along with other border policies *vis-à-vis* refugees, in the context of a growing body of research on borders and borderlands. Rather than simply borderlines, multi-ethnic border regions were porous *zones* of familiarity and interaction where national identities were negotiated and performed. Defined as nation-states and validated by U.S. President Wilson’s principle of self-determination, the new countries formed after the First World War nevertheless included numerically strong minorities among their populations. Czechoslovakia and Poland especially were profoundly mixed states, both ethnically and religiously. At least initially, Jews faced discrimination and attempts to exclude them from citizenship in all of the new states. Propaganda campaigns against Jewish refugees from the East depicted them as antithetical to national belonging and citizenship. Moreover, the expulsions of 1938 took place in some of the new border regions that were populated by ethnic minorities and whose local national identities were insecure. To understand the expulsions from the Sudetenland and the Burgenland, for instance, the frontier character of those regions and the complexity of their local identities must be considered. The team’s research has shown that the proliferation of the No Man’s Lands resulted from territorial revisions under Nazi pressure, which unsettled not only the territorial integrity of the nation-states in question, but also the very nature of citizenship in them. Therefore, refugees arriving at a border were not only seen as foreigners and a potential burden on social welfare, but as a threat to the very existence of the nation-state itself.

The team has also significantly contributed to the integration of refugee studies and citizenship studies. Historians have analyzed the concept of citizenship during the Holocaust in different contexts, for instance in connection with the prehistory and implementation of the Nuremberg Laws and in individual national cases such as Germany or Austria. Nevertheless, historical analysis of citizenship has been much better developed with regard to western European states, including Germany and Austria, in contrast to the “East”, where historians more often focus on nationalism, ethnic cleansing, and the practices of occupying forces.

Recognizing an intrinsic connection between the exclusion of “aliens” and the treatment of “citizens”, the team has examined the interplay between the exclusionary construction of citizenship in Nazi Germany and the citizenship rules in other states, up to the beginning of the Second World War in September 1939. This approach has revealed that the exclusion of Jews was part and parcel of a broader shift across the entire region from a concept of citizenship based in the individual to an ethnic construction of citizenship. The concept of citizenship was now defined with reference to the status of non-citizens, refugees, and the “Ostjuden” and was performed at the border and in the No Man’s Lands. The standard narrative of the Holocaust frames the expulsions of 1938 (correctly) as the “first deportations” and the beginning of a process that led “from expulsions to deportations”. Understanding the connection between the expulsions and the erosion of Jewish citizenship helps us to better grasp the broader effect of the exclusionary events, which transformed citizens into rightless and stateless refugees (and later deportees). [ASEP [0508054](#), [0499387](#), [0520041](#), [0501770](#)]

Inspired by this close look at one particular case of transnational refugee history, the expulsions of 1938, the team went on to carry out broader research on refugees in East-Central Europe throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The team successfully applied for a European Research Council consolidator grant for the project “Unlikely Refuge? Refugees and Citizens in East-Central Europe in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (UNREF)”, which aims to write refugees back into the 20<sup>th</sup> century history of East-Central Europe. The project was officially launched at the very end of the period under evaluation (in the fall of 2019) and as such it is too early for it to have yielded any particular results.

#### **B) The Comparative History of Violence During and After the First World War**

Research on modern wars and violence has an obvious thematic overlap with the above-mentioned transnational refugee studies, although it is a broader topic. The team departed from the current knowledge in the field to enrich international research into the violence connected with the First World War. The team concentrated on undertaking comparative research into violence as the key phenomenon in the destruction and reconstitution of East-Central Europe during the war and in the immediate interwar years, when the direct impact of the destructive war was overcome.

The team’s research sought to go beyond the established historiography, which mainly concentrates on the role physical violence played in the destruction and reconstitution of the states that were deemed to have been defeated. Its research blends comparative and transnational history, integrates popular and elite discourses, and brings into focus both individual and collective actors. The team identified and explained the main differences and similarities between those states of East-Central Europe that emerged from the First World War as the “losers” and those that were identified and also identified themselves as the “victors”.

The main units for comparison were the Austrian and the Czech lands, regions that shared a common constitutional framework until the end of 1918 but took off in different trajectories in the fall of 1918. The comparison reflected the shared experience of these two regions during the war as well as the entirely different framework of the Habsburg successor states after 1918. These two cases were enriched by researching the case of South Tyrol as a region which ended up within the broad culture of victory in Italy, but whose inhabitants perceived themselves as defeated.

The team’s research has shown that in the context of total war, physical violence was a major tool for conceptualizing and expressing social-political demands, and also a means of distinguishing the various notions of community and belonging that existed in the regions, regardless of whether the inhabitants stood on the side of the winners or the losers. In other words, physical violence was everywhere productive and generative, and not only destructive and degenerative.

While the shared framework of the Austrian half of the Habsburg Monarchy resulted in shared experiences and attitudes, the peculiarities of each of the regions and their different political trajectories after 1918 produced different outcomes. One of the critical fault lines that marked the different experiences of war was the divide between the urban centers, exemplified

by cities such as Prague and Pilsen, and above all, Vienna, and the rural hinterlands, which were represented in the research by South Tyrol. In the conservative countryside, whose inhabitants were always suspicious of outsiders, violence was supported by a narrative that distinguished the wholesome homeland from nefarious, bestial intruders, regardless of their ethnicity or political orientation. In the more dynamic, industrial, and cosmopolitan centers of the Monarchy, the meaning of violence was encoded from an early date in socio-political and ethnic-national terms. With the annexation of South Tyrol by Italy and the rise of Fascist aggression in the province after 1920, ethnic-national divides began to color understandings of violence in that rural province as well.

Another key fault line was the regions' different experiences of the war's end, which produced cultures of defeat in Austria and victory in Czechoslovakia. South Tyrol, where its German-speaking inhabitants perceived themselves as having utterly lost the war, was a special case and was incorporated into the (technically) victorious state of Italy after 1918. The widespread image of a defeated and humiliated Austrian society hardened the barriers between internal political camps that were defined by ideological orientation. Political and party rifts in Austria spurred violence, but also provided a framework for understanding it. In Czechoslovakia by contrast, the confidence and optimism inspired in the Czech and Slovak citizens of the new state imbued violence with an ethnic-national edge. Violence was perceived as the result of a contest between those who represented the admirable Czech (and to a lesser extent Slovak) achievement of 1918 and those who threatened, or seemed to threaten, that achievement (the Germans, Jews, Catholics, and others). In South Tyrol, violence after the war was shaped by a cultural code that distinguished the depressed and defeated Tyrolean community from Italian intruders. During the war, violence was a means to protect the South Tyrol's conservative, rural community from foreign elements. After it, violence took on a nationalist character and served to draw a sharp line between the German-speaking population and the Italian state authorities, as well as the nascent Fascist militias. [ASEP [0490379](#), [0465044](#)]

The team's research has delivered a new, cultural-historical comparative perspective on the fall of the Habsburg Monarchy in 1918 as well as the constitution of its successor states. By analyzing the phenomenon of physical violence as a critical component of societal transformation "from below", the research has reshaped some of the central narratives of Czech and Austrian national historiographies. It has also opened up a new field of research in the international context and forged a network of contacts that will facilitate future research into the topic. [ASEP [0507924](#), [0481549](#)]

Inspired by its findings, the team delved deeper into the history of the interwar period and asked questions about the repercussions the war's violence had on the interwar societies of East-Central Europe. In the framework of a project conducted jointly with the University of Salzburg (Prof. Laurence Cole), the team again instrumentalized the productive Czechoslovak-Austrian comparison to shed light on the experience of the veterans of the First World War (this time leaving South Tyrol aside). In close collaboration with our Austrian colleagues, the team performed a comparative analysis of the history of the movements formed by First World War veterans in both countries. This research showed how the Czechoslovak state had to deal with violence which accompanied its early efforts to build and defend itself, and how the experience of violence shaped its policies towards various veteran groups. The team explored the veterans' ideas about justice and their demands that they be rewarded for their contribution to the founding of the Republic. The veterans of the First World War were important to the Czechoslovak state for political reasons in that the veterans had legitimized the new state through their achievements and sacrifices. The state knew they needed to be compensated for their efforts. However, veterans often received insufficient recognition of their sacrifices and the bare minimum amount of financial compensation.

In the Austrian case, the project illuminated the path that many war veterans took from their initial mobilization for war to their remobilization during the political struggles of the 1920s. The research also tackled the changing politics of memory regarding the veterans. The Austrian Federal Association of Former Austrian POWs (B.e.ö.K) occupied a special position in that process.

In contrast to the radical veterans whose links to paramilitary groups were quite open, the B.e.ö.K. long emphasized its pacifist orientation and political neutrality. However, as the political crisis in Austria deepened, the veterans became more and more committed to the *Anschluss* with Germany, emphasizing the common bond between Germans no matter where they lived.

The team's research on the situation of interwar Austrian and Czechoslovak First World War veterans has further deepened understanding of the interwar order and the challenges that the repercussions of the war posed to it during the 1920s and 1930s. It has shed new light on many aspects of the interwar experiences of First World War veterans in East-Central Europe and enriched the contemporary historiography of interwar Europe with fresh comparisons across the new borders in the region.

Czech-Austrian comparative research has also been used in the team's main project for popularizing the results of its research – a Czech-Austrian jointly authored book on the two countries' shared history, which we will describe in more detail in Section Five below (Outreach).

### **C) Other Research Activities**

The two main research areas described above were supplemented by other projects that complemented the major focus of the team. The team's further research focused on Jewish history, particularly with respect to migration and the intellectual history of the Jewish communities. It examined how internal migration within the Habsburg Monarchy diminished the importance of Jewish communities in the countryside, while Jewish intellectuals in the urban areas served as mediators between Czechs and Germans during the growing national conflicts of the interwar era. [ASEP [0491711](#), [0482867](#), [0481545](#)]

The team strengthened its research methodology by using digital humanities tools. In cooperation with the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI), it explored the possibilities for digital humanities contributing to transnational refugee studies. The team ensured that the Institute became a member of the EHRI consortium, which was added to the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructure (ESFRI) Roadmap in 2018. Using the European Union's Horizon 2020 funding, the Institute is participating in the transformation of the EHRI into a permanent organization that will help to secure the future of transnational Holocaust research, commemoration, and education. The team is also taking part in a second EHRI-related project funded by the EU – EHRI-3. The team's proposal for this project was prepared during the period under evaluation, but the work under this project only commenced in 2020 and thus no activity took place during the evaluation period. The EHRI-3 project will run from 2020-2024 and will integrate Holocaust archives and research that has been undertaken by EHRI since 2010. It will substantially increase the coverage of the EHRI Portal, particularly with regard to the holdings of micro-archives. It will develop new digital tools to interconnect widely dispersed Holocaust historical sources and deliver state-of-the-art training and education opportunities to researchers and archivists.

The team's participation in this large-scale European research infrastructure has facilitated original research conducted by the team. In a project funded by the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic, the team cooperated with selected Czech institutions dedicated to preserving the memory of the Holocaust (e.g. the Terezín Institute) as well as with other entities in the private sector, to develop a large digital database of Prague's victims of the Holocaust, which contains thousands of documents and photographs. This database will be accessible from a mobile phone application and will allow users to follow the fates of individual Prague Holocaust victims. While this project started in 2018, the final work on the mobile application will not be completed until 2021. However, there is already a "beta" version of the application with limited functionality and access to data.

## Research activity and characterisation of the main scientific results

The team researches literary manuscripts in the broad period from the Middle Ages until the end of the early modern period. It builds upon the work of the Department for Cataloguing and Study of Manuscripts, which was founded in 1955 at the Archives of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. One of the team's essential tasks thus remains to provide access to manuscript collections in the Czech Republic and manuscript *Bohemica* abroad to create the *General Catalogue of Manuscripts*. A modern form of accessibility is represented nowadays by the electronic Database of Manuscripts and Bibliography of Codicological Literature (= Database of Manuscripts, *Databáze rukopisů a bibliografie kodikologické literatury*). In the evaluation period, the integration of the Database of Manuscripts into a new website *Knihověda.cz* <<https://www.knihoveda.cz/>> was an important step. The web page intends to create a virtual environment for Bohemian book culture research until 1800, which would meet the demand for interdisciplinary research infrastructure in the humanities and acknowledge new impulses of *digital humanities*. In 2018, the team created a website with a developing version of integrated search in a search interface, VuFind. The website will constitute a fundamental digital infrastructure for codicology, bibliology, and related disciplines and integrate electronic sources of information from several institutions. It will also be supplemented by an English version of the search engine that will meet the international academic community's needs.

The Database of Manuscripts was expanded with the database of history institutions managing historical manuscript collections in the Czech Republic, which is another positive output. The content of this database is based on updated materials gathered during the preparation of the five volumes of *Průvodce po rukopisných fondech v České republice* (A Guide to the Manuscript Collections in the Czech Republic) published in 1995-2011. Digitizing the data allows immediate supplementing of the data and related literature and fast updating of the data in case of the change of ownership of manuscript collections and individual manuscripts.

The team has also made significant progress in providing the accessibility of the manuscript *Bohemica* kept abroad. Researchers focusing on the Hussites will especially appreciate the modern catalogue of manuscript *Bohemica*, housed at the Palatina Library, a part of the Vatican library since 1623 [ASEP 0474709]. Its publishing marked the completion of long-term research of the Vatican manuscript *Bohemica*, which started with František Palacký in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The vast majority of the manuscripts that are now accessible comes from the late Middle Ages, especially the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century. It contains valuable sources about the Bohemian reformation movement and the situation in post-Hussite Bohemia. The research of the manuscript *Bohemica* abroad received a new direction with examining the phenomenon of emigration of Roman Catholic clergy from Bohemia and Moravia during the Hussite Wars [ASEP 0519464, 0495962]. Analysis of many previously unknown sources and the cataloguing of the exile manuscripts contributed to studying Catholic clergy's destinies and life strategies, who got away from the Hussites to Catholic enclaves and away from the Bohemian lands. The study of the exile manuscripts and other related documents revealed a testimony about a massive evacuation of individual books and whole libraries (mostly belonging to church institutions) abroad, where these collections were often divided, pawned, and sold. We can thus assume that the research of manuscript *Bohemica* abroad still holds a lot of potentials and in the future can produce previously unknown source testimonies.

Apart from providing access to the manuscripts accessible, the team also focused on other subjects, often having to do with specialized manuscripts. We made significant progress in processing illuminated manuscripts stored in the Czech archives, previously unknown in the scientific literature [ASEP 0481910]. Access to these manuscripts allowed to newly evaluate their artistic value, as in the case of the Bible of Petr Zmrzlík of Svojšín [ASEP 0499096]. Illustrations in this bible, which in older literature had been described as average artisan work, had in fact been created by a group of illuminators, some of which were the most accomplished in pre-Hussite Bohemia.

The team started work on a brand-new subject, the research of music manuscripts, in 2019 as part of the EXPRO project, investigated with the Faculty of Arts of Charles University. The project aims to increase the knowledge of Bohemian music culture in the late Middle Ages and correct the myths about Hussite music, which have their roots in the formation of Czech, and later Czechoslovak, national identity in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. Thus, the core of the work will be a thorough examination of a group of five typical late-medieval and early-Renaissance manuscripts, for which the *Codicology* team can provide perfect conditions. The main manuscript is the hymnbook Jistebnice Kancionál from the 1420s, one of the most important objects of the Bohemian and European Middle Ages' musical and literary culture. Its first critical edition, which will provide access to the study of this unique cultural artifact in a broader cultural and historical context, is thus a great success [ASEP [0518654](#)].

Another project investigated with the Faculty of Arts of Charles University builds on the results of older research by Jiří Pražák and Pavel Spunar regarding the study of script development, who in the 1960s and 1970s was inspired by a prepared catalogue of dated manuscripts. The research focuses on the development of script in Bohemia in 1300-1350, which allows studying writers and their writings before the foundation of Prague university, when Gothic scripts became widespread. Especially unique is the parallel following of two script development lines, i.e., the script of official documents and the book script and an attempt to find common development tendencies. Examination of clearly dated documents and manuscripts showed that the integration of cursive elements into book scripts took place with a certain delay and helped put script development on our territory into the corresponding development of script in the neighboring countries [ASEP [0481672](#)].

The research of early modern narrative sources about the history of Prague, České Budějovice, and Litoměřice, which are represented by preserved handwritten chronicle and commemorative records, helped to clarify the development of town historiography in the early modern period [ASEP [0518906](#)]. Narrative sources are closely connected to written communication in the early modern period, often becoming the source of the narrative's information, whether it is correspondence or reporting on current events. The team members have studied this phenomenon along with scholars from other academic institutions as part of the *Strategie AV21* program. Another subject examined in this program was a (previously not discussed in the literature) issue of the parallel existence of handwritten and printed book culture in the early modern period. Although this constitutes just a small step towards the necessary but seldom practiced transdisciplinary approach, even this step brings new perspectives into the Bohemian book culture's traditional research.

## Research activity and characterisation of the main scientific results

### History of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (ČSAV)

The core of the research was the work on a synthetic history of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (ČSAV), putting the most important academic non-university institution on the Czech territory in the 20<sup>th</sup> century in a broad social, cultural, and political context. A sizeable first volume (over 800 pages), devoted to the period of 1952-1962, combines traditional institutional history with biographical and prosopographical surveys [ASEP [0518005](#)]. The study of ČSAV's functioning as a whole institution is supplemented with thorough research of the academic work and internal workings of selected ČSAV institutions (we chose the ones that were in the very centre of attention at that time). The resulting image convincingly showed a dynamically changing position of science, scientific institutions, and scientists in Czechoslovakia in the mid-1900s and significantly improved the knowledge of social mechanisms in the 1950s and early 1960s, especially the function of science and basic research of that period. ČSAV is examined not only in its role of a network of institutions for basic research but also as an institution which played a vital role in science planning and worked as a centre for scientists and academic life. The research is not limited to the position of ČSAV in Czechoslovakia but also looks into the international academic system, including the complicated relationship between the Czechoslovak and Slovak Academy of Sciences. The first volume of the history of ČSAV has won the prestigious award of the CAS president for outstanding research results. The team wrote 80 % of the book and was responsible for all the editorial work.

Individual papers often focused on the very important and previously overlooked issue of the transformation of existing academic institutions into parts of the newly formed ČSAV [ASEP [0484113](#), [0491919](#), [0450772](#), [0448419](#), [0484116](#)]. They presented many aspects proving the change of politicians' attitude towards science, e.g. in the ethnographic and folklore research [ASEP [0468647](#), [0457430](#), [0481419](#)]. They also significantly contributed to the still valid questions of continuity and discontinuity of academic research in Czechoslovakia throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Further research of the team has shed new light on ČSAV's authorities' attempts to make this institution in the late 1960s a centre of power and introduce some aspects of scientocracy (mainly in the form of obligatory opposition of ČSAV towards all critical political and economic steps). The research also offers a new perspective on ČSAV's role in the social changes in 1968, presenting the perception of ČSAV and its top officials as a part of the establishment whose authority was being questioned [ASEP [0511887](#)].

The analysis of the status of two key academic institutions, ČSAV and Charles University, based on the previously unused archival sources, provided a look into the mechanism of the internationally debated changes in the coexistence of research at universities and an academy of science of the Soviet-type in European countries of the Eastern Bloc [ASEP [0497414](#), [0450839](#)]. The question of different stages of the relationship between ČSAV and the most important Czechoslovak university became the main subject of some of the individual papers on Linguistics or Egyptology [ASEP [0489021](#), [0491920](#), [0457429](#), [0461298](#)].

Examination of the relationship between ČSAV and Charles University led to an inevitable comparison of the situation in Czechoslovakia with that of other countries of the Soviet Bloc and, to a certain extent, other Central European countries (Austria). Possibilities for a comparative approach, which has proved to be very beneficial for the development of further research into the history of ČSAV, were mentioned by other individual papers, which, for example, analysed the filling of management posts in academies of science from the perspective of the candidates' professional focus [ASEP [0496300](#)]. In this context, a lot of emphases was put on the exceptional position of chemistry in Czechoslovakia (as opposed to physics or mathematics, representatives of which dominated the management in other countries).



### History of non-university institutions

The study of individual non-university research institutions showed remarkable opportunities for cooperation of representatives of social and natural sciences when working on similar subjects. Thus oriented works provide valuable information about the social position of science and scientific institutions in the past and help understand the general mechanisms of interaction of science and academic institutions with the society. These papers significantly contributed to new perspectives on a very topical issue of the relationship between basic and applied research. Further topics included the previously little examined financing of non-university research both after 1945 and in the interwar period [ASEP [0475157](#), [0468104](#), [0448421](#)].

### Scientists and their habitus in the 20<sup>th</sup> century

In the area of biographical research, the best results were achieved in works about the prominent figures of Czech Oriental studies, especially Alois Musil, who was a scientist working in many disciplines and at the same time was actively involved in the public life on many levels. Musil's correspondence was successfully used for the analysis of the behaviour of people in the cultural and political field of social networks in the first Czechoslovak Republic and allowed us to look behind the scenes of the mechanism of political decision-making about science and scientific institutions. The book offers a new perspective on the functioning of national institutes in interwar Czechoslovakia and combining scientific and economic interests [ASEP [0511617](#)]. The colourful person of Alois Musil opens up many possibilities of research in an international context, especially in the former Austria-Hungary with its political, cultural, and economic ambitions in the East.

Several other studies of the habitus of Czech scientists in 1918-1968, examining the subject of everyday life and leisure of scientists, helped to showcase a particularly current issue of a scientist's schedule and time management [ASEP [0522480](#)]. Papers on summer vacations of Czech scientists added valuable information about the role of joint stays at summer rental homes in forming informal relationships between scientists representing different disciplines [ASEP [0503173](#), [0498059](#)].

The team drew inspiration from the sociological methodology of Pierre Bourdieu and the concept of generations for the study of the formation of science schools and groups to be particularly significant and full of potential. The research on the building and working of the Prague School of Japanese Studies is a notable contribution to one of the key discussions about the development of science on the Czech territory in the 20<sup>th</sup> century – the discussion about the (dis)continuity of scientific research [ASEP [0520635](#)].

### International Scientific Cooperation and Czech Scientists

An important subject, which was raised by the international conference organised by the team members *Věda překonává hranice? Mezinárodní vědecké konference, sjezdy a kongresy ve 20. a 21. století* (Does Science Transcend Borders? International scientific conferences, seminars, and congresses in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century) in 2016, shows how the international scientific cooperation worked and how Czech scientists were involved in the global networks. Another important subject was the question of what role this factor played in Czech science in general and how the experience of international science affected the attitudes and habitus of Czech scientists in the 20<sup>th</sup> century [ASEP [0490415](#)].

The international workshop *Vědci a „třetí země“ v 60. – 80. letech 20. století* (Scientists and the “Third Countries” from the 1960s to the 1980s) organised by the team helped to, at least partially, examine a very current issue of scientific help for developing countries in the global South. This subject is appropriately complemented by papers focusing on the scientific and economic relations of Czechoslovakia and the Orient [ASEP [0501642](#), [0501640](#)]. The analysis of connections between science and economic factors brought new information, which is extremely important for understanding the role of science in the mechanism of international affairs.

### **Other Research**

In the evaluated period, we continued the research on the role of science in shaping the discourse on nutrition in Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic in the 20<sup>th</sup> century [ASEP [0448785](#), [0534741](#), [0448781](#)]. This research includes the first work on a still current subject of school meals in Czechoslovakia and their role in the socio-cultural context [ASEP [0511619](#)]. The research questioned the theory of school meals as a tool for improving the nourishment of children and instead highlighted the social aspects of the school meals system.

The attempt to capture the development of a process in which attributes connected to science gain a symbolic value is an innovative and promising trend. During the research, the emphasis is on the forming of the attributes' sign character and the question of how it affects science in return. The potential of this trend was clearly shown in a paper which used this methodological perspective to study the multi-layered subject of concrete.

## Research activity and characterisation of the main scientific results

The main outputs are the successful results of projects relevant to the subjects that the team has been working on long-term and the study of which it has the sources and professional experience. These results are also evidence of a high measure of cooperation with other teams and institutions and the ability to find and process relevant research subjects, which resonate with the academic community at home and abroad. Between 2015 and 2019, the team members investigated and co-investigated eight projects and published numerous monographs, editions, and articles pertinent to the team's research focus.

### A) Research of and providing access to sources on the history of science

The crucial part of the archive collections of the Masaryk Institute and Archives of the CAS and hence a logical source for research are sources on the history of science. They allow the team to study the history of academic institutions and top figures in the Czech, Czechoslovak, and German science of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was in this context that we published a pioneering monograph *Německá vysoká škola technická v Praze (1938–1945). Struktura, správa, lidé* (Praha, 2017), [ASEP 0478881]. The book reconstructs the institutional structure of the German Technical University in Prague and its functioning. It significantly improves the knowledge of the German education system and its representatives in the Czech Lands. Important information for the history of Czechoslovak science is provided by the first volume of a synthesis *Dějiny Československé akademie věd I. 1952–1962* (Praha, 2019), [ASEP 0518005], which the team co-authored. Based on the interest of the academy's institutions and their cooperation, the team participates in preparing publications on the history of individual institutes. This is how e.g. a monograph on the history of the Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics of the CAS, *Science below Rokoska Hill* (Praha, 2019), [ASEP 0521269], was written. The book's creation required the cooperation of historians and experts in this discipline and the work of this team's members, who, apart from being co-authors, provided the heuristic in the relevant collections and prepared the images. Both books also testify to the successful cooperation with the team *History of Science and Scientists in the 20th Century Society* and other CAS institutions.

The history of Czech and Czechoslovak science was also the subject of some of the investigated projects. One of them is a project focusing on the founders of Czech historical Slavic studies, Jaroslav Bidlo and Milada Paulová. The project follows their lives, careers, work, professional contacts abroad, and above all, their role in the broader context of the development of Czech humanities and their connections to the European context. Their mutual relationship and direct continuity were significant in their careers and professional focus – Paulová was Bidlo's student and, after his death, took over the teaching of the History of Central and Eastern Europe at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague. She was also the first female associate professor and university professor in the Czech Lands. Thus, the project pertains to the history of historiography or university education and gender studies. It is also a perfect example of close cooperation between teams at the Masaryk Institute (in this case, with the *History of Science and Scientists in the 20th Century Society* team).

The project *Mezi státním plánem a badatelskou svobodou. Etnografie a folkloristika v českých zemích v kontextu vývoje kultury a společnosti v letech 1945–1989* (Between the government plan and the freedom of research. Ethnography and folklore studies on the Czech territory in the context of the development of culture and society in the period of 1945–1989) co-investigated with the Ethnology Institute of the CAS and the Institute of Contemporary History of the CAS, has been well received from the very beginning. The project included processing a large, previously unarranged fonds of the Institute for Ethnography and Folklore Studies of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, including the data on the period's journals and institutions. As part of the oral history research, we conducted interviews with scientists and obtained unique testimonies about the development of ethnography/ethnology and folklore studies in Czechoslovakia after 1945. The interviews with people from intellectual elites were

of great benefit. Great emphasis was put on developing the theory and methodology of the discipline, international networking, foreign response to the Czech research, acclaim for the Czech research, adopting foreign approaches, theories, and subjects. Within the particular subject areas of the project, the study focused mainly on the national plans of the basic scientific research, the ideological science “management” and determination of the research agenda by the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, internal organization development and orientation on theory and methodology, a relationship between ethnography and study of folklore, work of the prominent representatives of ethnography and folklore studies in exile, and development of specialized related disciplines. The project included organizing a conference by the same name (2016), which received an award from the Czech Ethnological Society (the most prestigious ethnology institution in the country) for the best conference of the year and the resulting book (*Etnologie v zúženém prostoru*. Praha, 2016) [ASEP 0468885] met with a similarly positive response. A final monograph, which is the first modern synthesis of this discipline’s history with an emphasis on the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, is ready to be published. The team’s role in this project was thorough heuristic and research of archival sources, as well as co-authorship of individual papers and two monographs.

Another one of the team’s research contributions is the project *Ženy v české a československé vědě v první polovině 20. Století* (Women in Czech and Czechoslovak Science in the First Half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century), which started in 2019. The project aims to produce a complete picture of a female scientist in the Czech and Czechoslovak society in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century while considering the European context. The project analyzes the women to men ratio in scientific work, why specific disciplines attracted more women than men, women’s opportunities for professional growth and building a career in science, and balancing work and personal life. The first two individual results were presented at the annual meeting of Ignaz-Lieben-Gesellschaft in Vienna in November 2019 (*Wissenschaftlerinnen der ersten Generation in den Nachfolgestaaten der Habsburgermonarchie. Beispiele und Ansätze zu einer vergleichenden Perspektive. Tagung der anlässlich 100 Jahre Frauenstudium an technischen Hochschulen in Österreich*). One of the reasons was that they complement current research on women-scientists in Central Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

This project originated in previous research devoted to women’s work, which aimed to establish the start of paid women’s work, how and when uniquely female jobs appeared, in what circumstances, using what methods, and with what results women demand entry to the “male” jobs and equal access to the job market. This research also included combining professional work with domestic responsibilities, emphasizing women’s double burden. It analyzed the public’s perception of and response to paid women’s work. The project included a survey of the situation in neighboring countries, which allowed for comparison within the Central European frame. An interdisciplinary approach, team cooperation, and different perspectives – gender, class, and ethnicity – made it possible to create a dynamic picture of women’s work’s changing status, forms, and opinions. A historical presentation of women’s work started with an edition of period documents, continues with several papers, and was completed with a monograph *Nezbytná, osvobozující, pomlouváná. O ženské práci* (České Budějovice, 2017) [ASEP 0481401]. It is the first Czech synthesis on the subject and opens up some new areas for research. The project outputs were successfully presented in university courses, at scientific conferences, at numerous lectures for the public, and in the media.

Research focusing on the prominent figures of Czech science has been important and supported for a long time. A series of publications present the top representatives of various disciplines of science. Their papers are managed by the team members, who can introduce them to the professional community. Out of many monographs and editions of this type, we would like to mention the book *Válečný chirurg František Burian a zrození české plastické chirurgie* (Praha, 2015), [ASEP 0463552], which is a unique source on the history of medicine. It provides access to a collection of František Burian’s patients’ medical records from the Balkan Wars period. It shows how treating these war injuries contributed to the development of plastic surgery. The edition *Josef Charvát v dobách naděje a zmaru. Deníky z let 1946–*

1949 (Praha, 2018) [ASEP 0491747] deals with the history of medicine in a broader context. The journal entries by Josef Charvát (1897–1984), a doctor and founder of Czech endocrinology, capture his memories of study trips abroad in 1946 and 1947 and domestic events of 1948 and 1949. Every day, Charvát wrote notes that describe his own experiences and include important events in politics, culture, and economy of the period and provide a lot of exciting information about healthcare and medical research, including memories of prominent Czech and foreign doctors and scientists. Regarding humanities, the outputs devoted to the historian Josef Dobíáš deserve the most attention. The project *Josef Dobíáš (1888–1972). Mezinárodně uznávaný historik starověku a regionálních dějin*, was implemented in the framework of the CAS cooperation with the regions of the Czech Republic. It included many events – a seminar by the same name organized in collaboration with Muzeum Vysočiny Pelhřimov and subsidized by the Research Foundation of Anna and Jaroslav Krejčí (2018); an evening gala at the Pelhřimov Theatre of Lubomír Lipský, connected with an exhibition and a presentation of a catalog *Josef Dobíáš (1888–1972). Historik, klasický filolog a pelhřimovský rodák se vrací domů* (2018) [ASEP 0511889]; publishing of a monograph Hana Kábová – Ivana Koucká et al. *Josef Dobíáš (1888–1972). Život a dílo* (Praha, 2020) [ASEP 0519195] .

**B) Research of the history of the first Czechoslovak resistance and the formation of interwar Czechoslovakia**

Many of the outputs in the evaluated period examine the formation of Czechoslovakia, local resistance, and the construction of identity of the new country. Both professional and broader public was interested in the book describing the economic activities of the Czechoslovak Legion in Russia (*Vojáci nebo podnikatelé? Hospodářské a finanční aktivity československých legií během jejich anabáze v Rusku a na Sibiři*. Praha, 2019) [ASEP 0505150]. The edition *Paříž 1919. Mírová konference očima poradců československé a polské delegace* (Praha, 2017) [ASEP 0481645] offered a new perspective on the peace talks after the First World War and their non-political participants. The period of the First World War, local resistance, and its contribution to Czechoslovakia's formation were all subjects of the project *Maffie – mýtus a realita. Formování obrazu domácího protirakouského odboje v kolektivní paměti meziválečného Československa*, which analyzed the process of shaping the image of local anti-Habsburg resistance in the collective memory of the Czechoslovak society between the world wars. The project's outputs were numerous publications and extensive popularisation (partly organized with the support of the *Strategie AV21* program), mainly because the investigation of the project coincided with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of Czechoslovakia. Local resistance, its representatives, and (self)reflection were a popular subject of lectures and presentations in the media, as evidenced by the organized exhibitions and their accompanying program (e.g., the exhibition *28. Říjen*, organized by Prague City Archives with an accompanying series of lectures). Monographs, editions of previously unknown texts about the local anti-Austrian resistance, and papers in renowned domestic and foreign journals were prepared for publishing [ASEP 0534633, 0490343, 0475187, 0484735, 0495231, 0511882, 0497584]. Apart from a modern perspective on the Czechoslovak resistance, the project brought up an almost forgotten person of Bedřich Štěpánek, as well as many other members of the local resistance, and became a basis for next research, focusing on the formation of Czechoslovak statehood.

**C) Theory and methodology of archival science, editorial work**

Apart from the above-mentioned memoirs and journals, most of which were published with the support of the *Strategie AV21* program (*Paměť v digitálním věku; Formy a funkce komunikace*), the team published a number of other texts and books. They prove the team's editorial skills and provide access to engaging, and in many cases, unique, archival materials.

For example, a critical edition of the correspondence of two prominent geologists of the interwar period, Radim Kettner and Walery Goetel [ASEP 0518132], was met with great interest. The book shows how contacts were made in the academic world and how they

influenced politics. The person of Walery Goetel was also presented at an exhibition in Cracow. Another example of such an output is a multi-volume collective project on the Czechoslovak government-in-exile, for which MÚA had provided unique, previously unpublished documents. An extensive research project *Zápisy ze schůzí československé vlády v Londýně 1940–1945* was completed in 2016 with the release of the last volume of the critical edition [ASEP 0466363]. The cooperation of editors with varying focus (a historian, a legal historian, an archivist) from different institutions – Institute of History of the CAS, MÚA, the Faculty of Law of Charles University, and the National Archives of the Czech Republic – proved to be highly beneficial.

An essential contribution to the archival methodology consists of projects and papers devoted to archival materials' processing or conservation. Part of the team works with photograph collections, some of which were damaged in the 2002 floods and others, which require the conservator's evaluation and involvement. Examples of such outputs are workshops or papers stemming from the project *Zhodnocení a interpretace fotografického fondu Archivu Akademie věd ČR*, for which damaged photographs from the fonds Zdeněk Nejedlý or Jiří Viktor Daneš were used.

Some of the team's activities included the digitization of the sources on Czech history. One of them was the above-mentioned geographer Jiří Viktor Daneš, who worked as a Czechoslovak consul in Sydney in the period of 1921-1923. A book edition of Daneš's journey around the world is planned for 2020. It will help us understand how Daneš presented other cultures to the public by capturing cultural phenomena and behaviors. The book presents the extent of damage to these unique photographs due to the 2002 floods and the possibilities for preserving and conserving photograph collections. Other implemented digitizations included the collection *Vládní komise pro vybudování ČSAV*, pictures from every-day life of the university professor Zdeněk Nejedlý (1878–1962), musical records from the family archive of Zdeněk Nejedlý, and a manuscript of a journal of a literary critic and writer Václav Tille.