

The Václav Havel Library
Annual Report 2018



The Václav Havel Library Annual Report 2018



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Tel.: (+420) 222 220 112

Email: info@vaclavhavel.cz

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www.vaclavhavel.cz

www.rokrevoluce.cz

www.zmenitsvet.cz

www.cisthavla.cz

www.rozhovoryvh.cz

www.denikrevoluce.cz

www.havlovy-deti.cz

www.bibliografievh.cz

www.facebook.com/KnihovnaVaclavaHavla

www.facebook.com/VaclavHavelLibrary

www.youtube.com/knihovnavaclavahavla

www.twitter.com/KnihovnaVH

www.twitter.com/HavelLibraries

www.instagram.com/knihovnavaclavahavla

It only makes sense as a living or vital organism that occupies a place that cannot be overlooked in overall public and political life. [...] The Library must in some way be original as such, in itself, in its everyday nature, as a permanently existing phenomenon or place.

Václav Havel
A Few Sentences on the Václav Havel Library
Hrádeček



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Václav Havel Library premises: Ostrovní 13, Prague 1

The Václav Havel Library

The Václav Havel Library (hereinafter “VHL”, “VH Library”) gathers, researches, makes public, disseminates and defends the philosophical, literary and political legacy of Václav Havel, a major figure of modern Czech history who was a writer, playwright, thinker, human rights campaigner and Czechoslovak and Czech president. It also focuses on persons, events and phenomena linked to the legacy of Václav Havel and attempts to popularise them and place them in the period and contemporary context.

Since August 2014 the Václav Havel Library has been headquartered at Ostrovní 13, Prague 1. Space on the ground floor of the building is given over to the exhibition Havel in a Nutshell and club events. The VH Library puts on all kinds of seminars, readings, lectures, concerts and theatre performances at the venue. The first floor houses offices, the archive, a constantly expanding library and a reading room for the public.

The Václav Havel Library’s key missions include:

employing educational projects, debates, readings, theatre performances, concerts, lectures and other cultural activities to introduce the general public and specialists to the historical importance of the struggle for human rights and freedoms in the totalitarian period and the creation of civic society in the democracy-building period
organising archival, archival research, documentation and library activities focused on the work of Václav Havel and documents and other items linked to him, including expert analyses of their influence on the life of society and its self-reflection
organising academic research and publishing activities mapping the “world of Havel”



People of the Václav Havel Library

Founders

Dagmar Havlová
Miloslav Petrušek (deceased 2012)
Karel Schwarzenberg

Board of trustees

Michaela Bakala (deputy chair)
Iva Brožová
Gabriel Eichler (chair)
Dagmar Havlová
Božena Jirků
Martin Palouš
Jacques Rupnik
Nina Smitová
Milan Šimečka

Supervisory board

Emil Holub
Ondřej Jonaš
Luděk Niedermayer

Statutory representative

Michael Žantovský, executive director

Library team

Veronika Pikola Brazdilová – production assistant, 0.5-time
(from Sept 2018, previously on maternity leave MD)
Eva Csémyová – archive – 0.6-time
Marie Dorazilová – assistance at events, external
Anna Freimanová – editor – 0.8-time
Barbora Grečnerová – education coordinator
Pavel Hájek – head of production
Lucie Prachařová – executive assistant

Karolina Stránská – office manager
Jáchym Topol – chief dramaturge
Martin Vidlák – head of Documentation Centre
Barbora Hanková – production assistant, 0.6-time
(from September 2018, previously external)
Kateřina Hanková – assistance at events, external
Kristyna Herejtová – assistance at events, external
Jan Hron – digital archive administration, external
Marie Fantyšová – O. Škacha Archive, external
Jan Chytil – assistance at events, external
Tereza Johanidesová – librarian, external
(until 31. 12. 2018)
Klára Němečková – assistance at events, external
Zdenka Potměšilová – custodian, external
Viktorie Preissová – assistance at events, external
Jana Rumlová – assistance at events, external
Filip Rut – assistance at events, external
Lucie Skvrnová – assistance at events, custodian, external
Šarka Sladovnicková – Havel in a Nutshell lectures, external
Rozalie Stejskalová – assistance in Archive, external
Libuše Šidlová – custodian, external
Barbora Šikulová – assistance at events, external
Petr Štefek – Archive, external
Hana Tenglerová – assistance at events, external

External collaborators

Jiří Bělohradský – administration of servers
Klára Binarová – Václav Havel Human Rights Prize
Jakub Čermák – multimedia (from August 2018)
Václav Doubravský – IT support
Tomaš Javora – video recordings
Zuzana Janečková – Václav Havel Human Rights Prize
Eva Lorencová – editing and teaching work
Ondřej Němec – photo archive
Radka Prošková – production assistant
Taťana Rubášová – Pavel Juráček Archive/multimedia
(until 31 July 2018)
Nina Rutová – programmes for schools instructor

Kristyna Šlajchrtová – CartonClan, graphic design
 Jiří Vaněk – CartonClan, graphic design
 Jana Vejřikova – Přepišto.cz, transcription of
 spoken word and texts
 Adála Volfová – Václav Havel European Dialogues
 Ian Richard Willoughby – English translations
 Erika Zlamalová – Ivan M. Havel Archive/production
 Hynek Zlatník – English translations

Volunteers / interns

Natalie Šimůnková
 Veronika Zemanová

Services

Building administration: Atkins and Langford
 Development, s. r. o.
 Audit: KPMG Česká republika Audit, s. r. o.
 Accounting services: VGD, s. r. o.
 Webmaster: 2142 net, Jiří Šolc
 Cleaning: UNIVERSAL úklidová služba
 Commission book sales: KOSMAS, Academia

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Institutions:

Archive of the Office of the President
 Jan Patočka Archive
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 Czech Television
 Czechoslovak Documentation Centre
 Czech Radio
 Činoherní klub theatre
 People in Need
 Dejvické divadlo theatre
 Díky, že můžem
 DILIA
 Faculty of Theatre, Academy of Performing Arts
 Divadlo Archa theatre
 Divadlo Husa na provázku theatre
 Divadlo Na zábradlí theatre
 Divadlo v Dlouhé theatre
 DOX Centre for Contemporary Art
 American Spring festival
 Khamoro festival
 Stranou festival
 Tvůrčí Afrika festival
 French Institute in Prague
 Google Cultural Institute
 Music and Dance Faculty, Academy of Performing Arts



European Values Initiative
European Institute for European Policy
Arts and Theatre Institute
One World in Schools – People in Need
University of South Bohemia
Prague 6 Town Hall
Prague Municipal Library
Jihlava International Festival of Documentary Films
Moravian Provincial Library Brno
Muzeum Kampa
Dagmar and Václav Havel Foundation VIZE 97
FORUM 2000 Foundation
Hanns Seidel Foundation Prague
Charta 77 Foundation
National Archive
National Film Archive
Argo publishing house
Grada publishing house
Karolinum publishing house
LEDA publishing house
Novela Bohemica publishing house
Portal publishing house
Radioservis publishing house
TORST publishing house
Větrné mlýny publishing house
National Theatre in Prague
National Gallery in Prague
National Museum
National Technical Museum in Prague
NaVýchod
Nevypušť duši
NEWTON Media
Czech Literary Translators' Guild
Palác Lucerna
Polish Institute in Prague
Post Bellum
Prague Civil Society Centre, NF
Prague House in Brussels
Council of Europe Strasbourg
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty
Respekt
reSITE
Romanian Cultural Institute
Libri prohibiti samizdat library
Ferdinand Peroutka Association
Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

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Litera
Skaryna
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Střecha Lucerny
Book World Prague
TOPAZ
Charles University Prague
Office for the Documentation and Investigation of the Crimes of Communism
Institute for Czech-American Relations
Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes
Institute for Czech Literature, Czech Academy of Sciences
Nations Memory Institute (Slovakia)
Contemporary History Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences
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Andrej Krob
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Karel Schwarzenberg



Documentary Centre acquisitions

The following personally contributed to the archival and library collection:

Egidijus Aleksandravičius
 Jan Bernard
 Petr Brod
 Martin Butora
 Tereza Čermáková
 Kateřina Černá
 Mustafa Dzhemilev
 Ivo Farský
 Milan Fišera
 Anna Freimanová
 Martin Groman
 Johann Grünbauer
 Martin Halata
 Ivan M. and Dagmar Havel
 Pavel Hájek
 Jaroslav Horák
 Kryštof Hošek
 Klara Hůrková
 Mirosław Chojecki and Krystyna Krauze
 Petr Jančárek
 Vladimír Kara-Murza
 Leoš Klement
 Ivan Kott
 Martin Kroupa
 Koba Liklikadze
 Marijan Lipovac
 Miroslav Masák
 Ondřej Němec
 Lukáš Paleček
 Paweł Pawlikowski
 Miroslav Petr
 Eva Plánská
 Vladimír Pucek and Marie Vobořilová
 Iva Ruszelaková
 Jan Schmid
 Oskar Siebert
 Lucie Svobodová
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 Marie Tomašová
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Zdeněk Valášek
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 Michael Žantovský

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Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes
 Nation's Memory Institute
 Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences
 State Regional Archive Prague
 Forum 2000
 Amnesty International

KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
LEDEN 2018

01



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
ÚNOR 2018

02



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
BŘEZEN 2018

03



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
DUBEN 2018

04



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
KVĚTEN 2018

05



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
ČERVEN 2018

06



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
ZÁŘÍ 2018

09



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
ŘÍJEN 2018

10



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
LISTOPAD 2018

11



KNIHOVNA
VÁCLAVA HAVLA
PROSINEC 2018

12





Michael Žantovský (right) discusses the future of Europe with Ivan Kratsev (11 June 2018).

A Word from the Director

It is almost trivial to write that 2018 represented another milestone in the 15-year history of the Václav Havel Library. However, facts and figures cannot be denied. The number of events organised at the library and elsewhere, the constantly increasing interest of visitors and viewers, the expansion of the Library's digital footprint to near Yeti dimensions, two large and strongly attended Havel-related conferences and the gradual growth of and increasing response to our educational activities, all despite essentially static staff numbers and financial resources, confirm the constant and topical significance of the legacy of Václav Havel, as well as value of the existence and work of an institution dedicated to his legacy and opens vistas of further growth inescapably linked, of course, to a quest for fresh focuses of activity, new collaborators and further material resources.

2018 was also exceptional for a range of important anniversaries connected to modern Czech history to which we accorded due consideration in our programme, whether it was the anniversary of the foundation of the Czechoslovak state in 1918, whose Masarykian tradition Václav Havel aligned himself with, the infamous anniversaries of the Munich Agreement in 1938 and so-called Victorious February in 1948, which made an indelible mark on his life, or the anniversary of the Prague Spring and its quelling by Soviet occupation in 1968, which set him on

a course of civic activism and anti-totalitarian resistance. 2019, with recollections of the 20th anniversary of the CR's accession to NATO and the 15th anniversary of its joining the EU, which Václav Havel did a great deal to bring about, and above all the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, which was led by Václav Havel, will place similarly extraordinary demands on us, in part because reverberations of the protests of 1989 are beginning to be felt again in the endeavours of the new generation of young people, who are protesting against efforts to undermine some of the basic pillars of the democratic system that the Velvet Revolution brought about.

The development, successes and reception of the Library's activities and awareness of the meaningfulness of our work are for us a source of both joy and modest pride. We are aware that none of this would be possible without the support provided to us by our strategic partner and other donors, without the interest and support of a range of Czech and international public institutions, without the support, input and advice of our founders and members of our boards of trustees and supervisors, or without the enthusiasm and interest of tens of thousands of supporters in the material and virtual worlds. To all of them we owe gratitude and a commitment to continue in our endeavours to preserve and disseminate the legacy of Václav Havel and the values that he represented.

Michael Žantovský
 Director – statutory representative
 21 June 2019



The Documentation Centre

The Documentation Centre administers a specialised library of over 5,478 catalogued titles, an extensive photography archive and written documents whose digital processing has reached 50,610 entries and a publicly accessible permanent exhibition and reading room. Access to the digital archive is free of charge to researchers following registration.

The Documentation Centre administers a collection of physical documents, artefacts, audio-visual materials and photographs and continuously adds digitalised archives from loans and gifts from institutions and private individuals to its collections. In addition, it develops its own research activities and participates in the preparation of the Library's program, exhibitions and book production.

In 2018 the interns Ivan Beljajev, Rozálie Stejskalová and Jan Kavan worked with the archive.

The Archive

The archive continued to constantly digitalise selected archive documents as well as describing and cataloguing them. This chiefly concerned: 1) the digitalisation of documents and photographs from the archive of Ivan M. Havel, including their description, in a total of 3,044 high resolution scans; and 2) the identification of known persons and the dating of all negatives and the completion of the organisation and description of 165 boxes of negatives by Oldřich Škácha.

The Archive was further involved in

- the preparation of the publication of books composed of archival materials held or digitised at the Documentation Centre: Václav Maria Havel *My Memoirs* (see p. 23) and the electronic and print publication of interviews with Václav Havel *Má to smysl! (It's Worth Doing!)* acquired by Anna Freimanová and Tereza Johanidesová (see below)
- the completion of documents and recollections relating to Václav Havel's school years

- the gradual processing of documents relating to a spring 1989 petition for Václav Havel's release
- the creation of the online database www.rozhovoryvh.cz comprising close to 100 interviews given by Václav Havel to Czechoslovak and international print media between 1964 and 1989.

The Archive in numbers

At the end of 2018, the total number of processed events and documents amounted to 50,610; the number of processed events in the life of Václav Havel was 15,290; the number of processed texts by Václav Havel was 2,994; texts about Václav Havel 14,717; bibliographic entries 16,194; processed correspondence 5,601; photographs 1,792; video recordings 275; and audio recordings 555. At the end of 2018 the book catalogue reached a total of 5,498 books and periodicals, of which approximately one-quarter feature texts by Václav Havel. Physically 4,371 books and magazines are held at the library.

The Documentation Centre responded to 197 individual queries during personal visits by researchers or via email. Some 556 new researchers were registered in the digital archive. By the end of 2018 a total of 3,311 researchers had used the archive.

New works on "Havel" themes were created with the help of materials accessible in the Documentation Centre's archive and library and were subsequently added to its book collection. This concerned Markéta Kovačiková's English language *A Portrait of Václav Havel in the USA*, which was written at the Department of English and American Studies at Ostrava University. Another significant contribution to the collection of academic works was Marek Melša's *Ing. Hugo Vavrečka – kapitoly ze života Baťova prvního rádce 1932–1952 (Hugo Vavrečka – Chapters from the Life of Baťa's First Advisor, 1932–1952)* (Department of History, Faculty of Arts, Charles University), which later earned the author the prestigious Edvard Beneš Award for historical writing (second prize).



Documents of insufficient quality and resolution that the Documentation Centre also has access to were gradually digitalised again. If the number of some of the items referred to fell compared to previous years, this was as a result of the systematic removal of duplicates that naturally appear in the digital archive. The Documentation Centre will continue in this work in the coming years.

New additions

The most significant addition in 2018 was another part of the gradually being processed archive of Ivan M. Havel and President Václav Havel's programmes of trips and visits.

Further acquisitions arose from the Library's own research in the collections of the National Archive, the Archive of the City of Prague, the State District Archive in Nymburk, the archive at the Faculty of Drama at the Academy of the Performing Arts, Prague's University of Chemistry and Technology and Czech Technical University and the Museum of North Bohemia in Liberec.

The Documentation Centre also received many books and magazines as donations from publishers or authors at presentations of books during club evenings at the Library in exchange for its own publications or as gifts for cooperating on exhibitions and other events.

Other acquisitions to the archival collection were provided by: Egidijus Aleksandravičius, Jan Bernard, Petr Brod, Martin Butora, Tereza Čermáková, Kateřina Černá, Mustafa Dzhemilev, Ivo Farský, Milan Fišera, Anna Freimanová, Martin Groman, Johann Grünbauer, Martin Halata, Ivan M. and Dagmar Havel, Pavel Hájek, Jaroslav Horák, Kryštof Hošek, Klara Hůrková, Mirosław Chojecki and Krystyna Krauze, Petr Jančárek, Vladimír Kara-Murza, Leoš Klement, Ivan Kott, Martin Kroupa, Koba Liklikadze, Marijan Lipovac, Miroslav Masák, Ondřej Němec, Lukaš Paleček, Paweł Pawlikowski, Miroslav Petr, Eva Plánská, Vladimír Pucek and Marie Vobořilová, Iva Ruszelakova, Jan Schmid, Oskar Siebert, Lucie Svobodová, Jan Svoboda, Marie Tomašová, Zlatko Topčić, Katarina Vaculíková, Zdeněk Valášek, Eduard Zvěřina and Michael Žantovský.

Institutions: Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, Nation's Memory Institute, Institute of Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Sciences, State Regional Archive in Prague, Forum 2000 and Amnesty International.

The Library

In 2018 the main focus of the Library's Documentation Centre's work remained the ongoing enlargement of Václav Havel's bibliography. The number of entries at the end of the year stood at 16,194. The bibliography is freely accessible, linked to the book catalogue and maps to the greatest possible extent texts published both domestically and abroad.

At the close of 2018 a total of 142 new entries of publications, including 92 books and 50 periodicals, had been added to the book catalogue. The total number of new volumes in 2018 (i.e., including duplicates) reached 144.

The designation of new call numbers to the entire book collection continued. Alongside regular purchases of domestic and foreign literature, the Library acquired for its collection several samizdat publications of the works of Bohumil Hrabal and Bedřich Fučík as well as the Albanian translation of Michael Žantovský's biography of Václav Havel. *Mustafa Dzhemilev and the Persecuted of Crimea*, by the Soviet-era dissident and Crimean Tartars leader Mustafa Dzhemilev, enriched the human rights literature collection, which the archive is gradually expanding.

The digital catalogue of books and periodicals is freely available without prior registration on the website of the Documentation Centre, while publications from the book collection are solely provided to researchers in reference form in the reading room. The archive and library's reading room was open to the public every Tuesday from 9am to 5pm; it was also accessible at other times by prior arrangement.

The Photo Archive

In 2018 more than 500 photographs were processed, predominantly from the archive of Ivan M. Havel.

Work on the lifelong archive of photographer Oldřich Škácha, which the Library had previously acquired, focused on the digitisation and above all description of 165 boxes of contacts (around 12,000 sheets) by Oldřich Škácha.

Photo documentation of 53 events (1,426 photographs) organised by the Library in 2018 was added to the archive. The Photo Archive prepared a variety of projections of photographs for various events at home and abroad and collaborated

on the handling of a number of research questions and the preparation of photographs for the Library's book productions (see above).

The Pavel Juráček Archive

The Pavel Juráček Archive arose in February 2014 when his son Marek Juráček handed over six banana boxes and a typewriter case from his father's estate to the Václav Havel Library. Thousands of pages of manuscripts, typescripts, photographs, documents and personal and official correspondence are gradually being classified and digitalised. The result of this work should be not only to map the life and work of one of the key figures of the New Wave of Czechoslovak film in the 1960s, but also to make his literary works accessible in the book series *The Works of Pavel Juráček*.

The aim of the Václav Havel Library is to ensure that Pavel Juráček finds a place in the broader cultural consciousness and to notionally build on the deep friendship he shared with Václav Havel. Soon after Juráček's death in 1989 Havel said of him: *"Pavel was a friend of mine whom I liked very much. He was one of the most sensitive and gentle people I have known – that's why I cannot write more about him."*

In 2018 the digitalisation of Juráček's sent correspondence continued, with the metadata (at a total extent of c. 2,500 scans) subsequently obtained. Searches through his personal materials from the years 1959–1974, which was demanding time-wise and operationally, supplemented the relevant autobiographical entries and at end of the year resulted in the publication of the third volume of *Pavel Juráček: Deník (Pavel Juráček: Diary)*.

We are planning in 2019 to supplement the existing *Works of Pavel Juráček* series with a volume dedicated to his final film, *A Case for a Rookie Hangman*, to complete the *Deník (Diaries)* series with a fourth volume (in cooperation with publishers Torst) and to prepare a collection of Juráček's correspondence; its planned publication as a co-edition project with the National Film Archive has been put back until 2020.

Technical Support

Major modifications to the cleaning and the new architecture of the Archive's database were completed.

Cooperation

on public events and projects

The Documentation Centre devoted a great deal of work to providing support for club and publishing activities and initiated several events and discussions that led to its receiving further archival materials and information for future researchers.

on the Library's programme

The Documentation Centre was most involved in cooperating on these events and club programmes:

- Václav Havel European Dialogues and the 2018 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize
- Man of Inspiration – educational lessons accompanied by short videos
- Year of Revolution, mapping key events in 1989 in the form of three- to five-minute videos
- August 1968 in Liberec in cooperation with Professor Miroslav Masák
- The North Bohemian Museum in Liberec and Czech Radio, 6.9.2018
- Republic Café, a loose debate series marking the 100th anniversary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia that in the 2018/2019 season was prepared by the Václav Havel Library and the Divadlo Husa na provázku theatre and took place in parallel once a month in Prague and Brno
- Museum Night 2018, an evening comprising the Man of Inspiration educational lessons and exhibition of reproductions of Božena Havlová's spelling book and Hugo Vavrečka's sketches for Václav and Ivan Havel
- November 17 celebrations – selection of texts and preparation of film screenings for Václav Havel's Living Room on the plaza by the National Theatre as part of the *Narodní Proměna* festival of freedom and democracy. Prepared in cooperation with the group *Diky, že můžem*
- Engineers of Humanity – gathering of secondary literature and sources and subsequent preparation of an international colloquium on the importance of the work of American non-profit, volunteer and aid organisations in the newly established Czechoslovakia, held with the financial support of the Embassy of the USA in Prague on 5 December 2018 in connection with the centenary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia.

In 2018 archive staff organised a number of excursions for students via which they were introduced to the workings and

services of the Archive, the structure and content of the collections and the Václav Havel Library's mission in general. Presentations of the institution's work were prepared for students of history from Charles University's Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Drama at the Academy of Performing Arts and international students from the US (Purchase College, State University of New York). Students from the Charles University Faculty of Arts seminar The Theatres of Václav Havel, helmed by James Little, also learned about the working of the Archive and later actively worked with documents from the archive.

on the preparation and production of VH Library book titles

- *Má to smysl. Rozhovory s Václavem Havlem z let 1960–1989* (*It's Worth Doing: Interviews with Václav Havel, 1960–1989*)
- *Václav M. Havel: Mé vzpomínky* (*Václav M. Havel: My Memoirs*). First complete edition, researched, identified, digitised and amended with over 300 archive photographs and pictorial documents (for more see p. 23)
- Jan Bernard (ed.): *Václav Havel a film, scénáře, úvahy a analýzy z let 1957–1989* (*Václav Havel and Film: Screenplays, Essays and Analyses, 1957–1989*) (for more see p. 27)
- Preparation of materials and photographing of finished products for *Kuchařka Václava Havla* (*The Václav Havel Cookbook*)

on the preparation of books issued by other publishers

The Documentation Centre was also involved with the book *Vlasta Chramostová: Byl to můj osud Na přeskáčku I., II.* (*Vlasta Chramostová: It Was My Fate. At Random I, II*), which was not published by the Václav Havel Library, and the collection *Diskuse o statečnosti* (*Discussions on Bravery*), edited by Josef Svoboda. Making use of documents from the VHL archive, writer Eva Papoušková put out the book *Cílovníci* (*The Driven*), about life in a Poděbrady grammar school after WWII. The Documentation Centre contributed consultations and a pictorial accompaniment to a lavish catalogue produced by the Prague theatre Divadlo Na zábradlí.

on exhibitions

The following exhibitions were created with the help of the archival collection of the Václav Havel Library:

- Oldřich Škacha and Kamila Berndorffova: Václav Havel, Blatná Municipal Museum, 15. 9.–4. 11. 2018,
 - Oldřich Škacha: August 1968, Blatná, Na Příkopech St., 1.8–30.9. 2018, organised by Centrum kultury a vzdělávání Blatná, KAMFO and Kulturní kavarna Železařství U Šulců
 - Oldřich Škacha: Prague '68 and Actress Dobroshi Jumping Joyfully for World Peace, National Library, Pristina, 23.5–6.6.2018, organised by the Czech Embassy in Pristina
 - Soviet Invasion – August 1968 in the Eyes of 40 Photographers, Old Town Hall, Prague, 6–30 August 2018; curator Dana Kyndrová selected photos by Oldřich Škacha for the exhibition
 - Prague Spring 50, Nebraska, USA, a selection of photos recalling the 50th anniversary of the occupation of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops in the US
 - Václav Havel – Zběšičky 1901, an exhibition of glass plate photographs from the Havel family archive at the Koníček club in Prague's Lucerna, curated by Ondřej Němec
- In cooperation with Google Culture Institute**
- the Documentation Centre prepared two digital exhibitions that are also accessible from the Václav Havel Library website:
- Oldřich Škacha: Occupation 1968, organised in cooperation with České centrum fotografie (see above)
 - Faces of Resistance (accessible as an independent project at www.tvare-vzdoru.vaclavhavel-library.org)
 - The exhibition – launched symbolically on 25 February 2018, 70 years after the outbreak of a Communist putsch in then Czechoslovakia – introduces via photographs by Pavel Hroch and texts from Adam Drda, Luděk Navara, Jiří Peňás and Jan Horník the life stories of 50 people who between 1938/39 and 1989 managed to stand up to evil, risk their lives and place justice and civility above their own calm and comfort. Visitors to the Václav Havel Library learned more about how Pavel Hroch selected the subjects, how he took their portraits and what the series meant to him during a talk with the photographer helmed by Viktor Portel of Post Bellum (see p. 88).
- During 2018 preparations were made for another edition of the project in which the life stories of 50 more people who stood up to evil were to be similarly presented.
- In cooperation with the Public Diplomacy Department at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs the exhibition Václav Havel in a Nutshell was reproduced in further language versions. Digital versions of the exhibition, currently only to be found

- Oldřich Škacha: Occupation 1968, České centrum fotografie, 15. 8.–16. 9. 2018, in cooperation with České centrum fotografie



on the Library's premises, should also serve Czech diplomatic missions abroad and Czech Centres. In connection with this the archive has begun to expand a map of Václav Havel's travels entitled Fly the World with Václav Havel. It is intended to become part of a new object commemorating Václav Havel at Prague Airport. The Documentation Centre helped prepare the conditions for a tender process for the new object and created the project's organisational infrastructure after the selection of the winning proposal.

on the presentation of VH Library book titles

Europe Day 2018, Střelecký island, Prague, 9. 5. 2018
 Book World Prague, Výstaviště, Prague, 10.–14. 5. 2018
 Letní Knihex, Štvanice island, Prague, 16. 6. 2018
 Book World, Plzeň, 21.–22. 9. 2018
 Havlíčkův Brod Book Fair, 5.–6. 10. 2018
 Tabook, Tabor, 27.–30. 9. 2018
 Zimní Knihex, Alta Prague, 8.–9. 12. 2018



on the preparation of documentary films and retrospectives

The Documentation Centre also cooperated through the provision of photographs on documentaries in the Czech Television series Gen dedicated to Milena Černá, Ivan M. Havel and Michael Žantovský. It also contributed to the documentaries Konec věčných časů (The End of Eternal Times) and Mistr objektivu Ivan Kyncl (Ivan Kyncl, Master of the Lens), a film Helena Třeštková was making on Miloš Forman and a four-part documentary about Pavel Kohout To byl můj život?? (That Was My Life??) directed by Viktor Polesný.

Through the selection of texts and quotations and the preparation of photo projections, the Documentation Centre also contributed to many other of the institution's activities.

on the preparation and realisation of theatre productions and competitions

Divadlo v Dlouhé, Prague – Letters to Olga
 Divadlo Feste, Brno – The Power of the Powerless, Prague version
 Slovenské komorné divadlo, Martin – The Beggar's Opera
 Faculty of Drama, Academy of Performing Arts in cooperation
 VHFL – Best short play competition

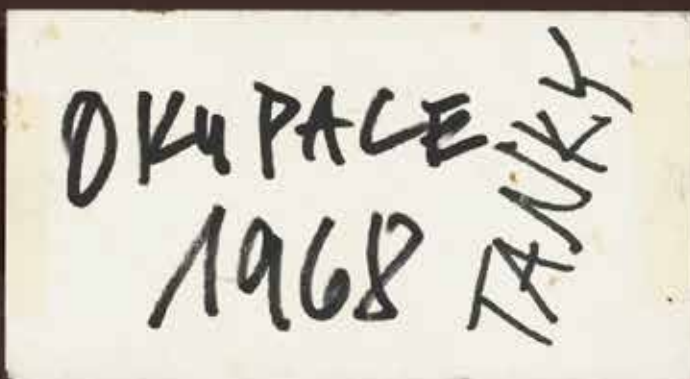




Czech Photo Centre, Seydlerova 2835/4, 158 00 Praha 5 – Stodůlky
/u stanice metra Nové Butovice, výstup směr Poliklinika Lípa/



1918
100
2018
SPOLEČNÉ STOLETÍ



OLDŘICH ŠKÁCHA

OKUPACE 1968

15. 8.-16. 9. 2018

VÝSTAVA FOTOGRAFIÍ ZE SBÍRKY
KNIHOVNY VÁCLAVA HAVLA

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12x16in

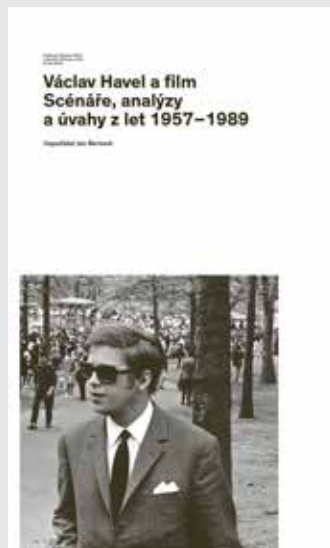
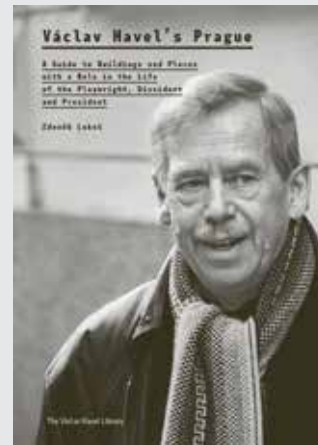
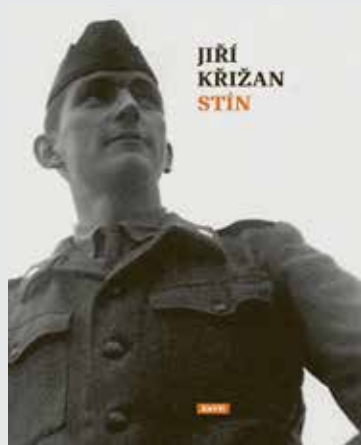
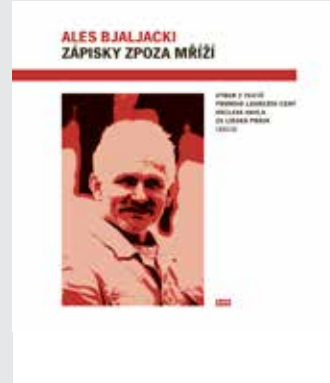
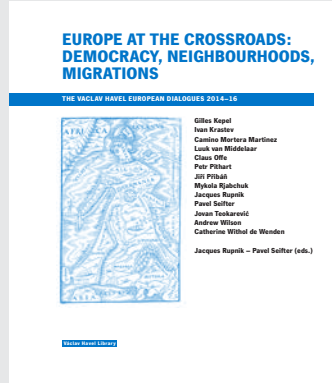
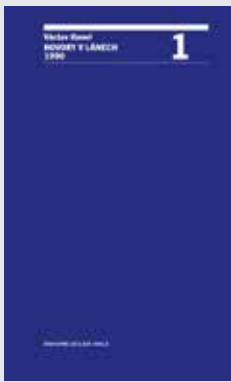
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Publishing activities

The central focus of the Library's publishing programme is the life and work of Václav Havel, his family and close collaborators and friends. For clarity, the programme is divided into six series: Václav Havel Library Notebooks, Václav Havel Library Editions, Student Line, Talks from Lány, Works of Pavel Juráček and Václav Havel Library Conferences. Titles that cannot be incorporated into any of the given series but which are nonetheless important for the Library's publishing activities are issued independently, outside the series framework.

Best-selling titles

released in 2018

Václav M. Havel: *Mé vzpomínky. První úplné vydání (My Memoirs: The First Complete Edition)*

Jiří Křížan: *Stín (The Shadow)*

Zdeněk Lukeš: *Václav Havel's Prague*

released in previous years

Anna Freimanova (ed.): *Václav Havel: Moc bezmocných (The Power of the Powerless and other essays)* (2012, reprint 2016)

David Dušek (ed.): *Václav Havel: Zápisky obviněného (Václav Havel: Notes of the Accused)* (2016)

Zdeněk Lukeš: *Prague Václava Havla (Václav Havel's Prague)* (2016)

Pavel Hájek (ed.): *Hele, Havel! (Hey, it's Havel!)* (2016)

Sold-out titles

Václav M. Havel: *Mé vzpomínky. První úplné vydání (My Memoirs: The First Complete Edition)*

Jan Lukeš: *Pravě proto, že jsem. Rozhovor s Ivanem M. Havlem (Just Because I Am: An Interview with Ivan M. Havel)* (2017)

Krystyna Wanatowiczova: *Miloš Havel – český filmový magnát (Miloš Havel – Czech Film Magnate)* (2013, reprint issued in 2017)

Anna Freimanova (ed.): *Václav Havel: Moc bezmocných (The Power of the Powerless and other essays)* (2012, reprint 2016)

Jan Hron (ed.): *Perzekuce Václava Havla. Dopisy a dokumenty z let 1968–1989 (The Persecution of Václav Havel: Documents and Letters, 1968–1989)* (2015)

Filip Topol: *Fantazie G moll (Fantasy in G minor)* (2014)

Martin C. Putna: *Spiritualita Václava Havla (The Spirituality of Václav Havel)* (2009)

Ladislav Hejránek: *Havel je uhlík (Havel is Carbon)* (2009)

The Václav Havel Library Notebooks

The Václav Havel Library Notebooks are an irregular quarterly published since 2009. They are in their way a laboratory and experimental space presenting the research of the Library's Documentation Centre (in the form of reprints of texts unknown or inaccessible to the public) and newly created Havel studies in the fields of culture and oral history. They are intended for students and the general public.

A planned collection of newspaper articles entitled *Václav Havel v normalizačním tisku (1977–1989) (Václav Havel in the Normalisation Press (1977–1989))* was moved to the publishing plan for 2020 due to time restraints on the editor, TV presenter Jakub Železný; it in all likelihood will be published as an e-book.

The Václav Havel Library Editions

The Library's "flagship" series, established in 2010, focuses on the publication of extensive studies of key significance in understanding the life and work of Václav Havel.

In September 2018 Václav M. Havel's *Mé vzpomínky (My Memoirs)* was published after almost seven years of editorial work. Though a demanding read, it met with an extraordinarily warm response from critics and the entire print run (2,000 copies) was sold out by the end of the calendar year.

Václav M. Havel: My Memoirs: The First Complete Edition

Mé vzpomínky (My Memoirs) by Václav Maria Havel (1897–1979), father of Václav Havel, can be read in several ways. As the self-portrait of a personality whose entrepreneurial

spirit was, in a completely natural manner, married to social responsibility. As a chronicle of one of the most prominent families in early 20th century Prague. Or as a monumental fresco of the beginnings of modern Czech history. After all, it was Václav M. Havel who stood at the head of key student and civic activities in the First Republic (such as the YMCA), who built the Lucerna Palace, who founded the new Prague district of Barrandov...

The book came out in the original form conceived by the author and contains more than 300 period photographs and archival documents, the majority of which were previously unpublished.

The VH Library Student Line

The Library has been issuing themed collections from the works of Václav Havel, intended primarily for students or those encountering his work (and life) for the first time, in this series since 2012. Individual volumes are supplemented by essays by experts on Havel's oeuvre and rich photographic accompaniment.

No new titles were added to this series in 2018. In view of the persisting interest in VH's essays as edited by Anna Freimanová in *Moc bezmocných a jiné eseje (The Power of the Powerless and other essays)* (3,000 copies sold by the end of 2018), a third edition of the book was prepared for release in summer 2019.

An originally planned collection of Václav Havel's theatre plays will receive its own series; it should begin publication in autumn 2019.

Talks from Lány

Talks from Lány (1990–2000), a series of transcriptions from a series of radio interviews with Václav Havel, was established in 2013 and in 2016 retransformed from classic printed to electronic form.

Books were published in this series in 2018 that had previously come out in the press – *Hovory v lánech 1990 (Talks from Lány 1990)*, *Hovory v lánech 1991 (Talks from Lány 1991)* and *Hovory v lánech 1992 (Talks from Lány 1992)* –, as was number four in the series, *Hovory v Lánech 1993 (Talks from Lány, 1993)*.

The Works of Pavel Juráček

The series was established in spring 2014, shortly after Marek Juráček (Pavel Juráček's son) decided to donate the entirety of

his father's estate to the Library. The initial encounter with the preserved typed and handwritten manuscripts made clear the indisputable literary and cultural-historical value of the estate, which will require further systematic work. To this end a partial Pavel Juráček Archive was created while a framework plan to publish his works was also put in place.

In 2018 a further volume in the Works of Pavel Juráček was prepared on the creation of perhaps his most discussed film, *A Case for a Rookie Hangman*, which is expected to see publication at the end of 2019.

In addition major progress was made preparations for an edition of Juráček's correspondence, which in digital form comprises around 2,500 scans and in many respects complements and closes his *Deník (Diary)*.

Last but not least, the Pavel Juráček Archive played a major role in the publication of the second-last, third volume in the *Deníku Pavla Juračka (Diary of Pavel Juráček)* (for more see the section on publishing cooperation).

Václav Havel Library Conferences

The Library's newest series was established in autumn 2014 with the aim of mapping the proceedings of selected conferences that the Library has been involved in the preparation and holding of, either as (co)organiser or guarantor. Compared to regular conference proceedings, the preparation of these volumes receives extraordinary care, including in terms of design; each is accompanied by a piece by an artist for whom the subject has a close connection and a resonance.

Three volumes were published in this series in 2018, one in print (*Eye-Witnesses to the Charter*) and two electronically (*Europe at the Crossroads, Notes From Behind Bars*) that can be downloaded for free from our e-shop.

Jacques Rupnik, Pavel Seifter (eds.): Europe at the Crossroads: Democracy, Neighbourhoods, Migrations

A collective monograph compiled by Jacques Rupnik and Pavel Seifter that offers a selection of the key papers presented at the annual conferences of Václav Havel European Dialogues in 2014–2016 from Gilles Kepel, Ivan Krastev, Camino Mortera Martinez, Luuk van Middelaar, Claus Offe, Petr Pithart, Jiří

Přibáň, Mykola Rjabchuk, Jacques Rupnik, Pavel Seifter, Jovan Teokarević, Andrew Wilson and Catherine Withol de Wenden.

Eye-Witnesses to the Charter

A collection of texts from a conference organised the Václav Havel Library and the Charta 77 Foundation on the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Charter 77. "Today's meeting is an expression of our admiration and respect for what Charter 77 did for human rights and freedom and this country. Yesterday we recalled the moment when Charter set off on its journey from the house at number 64 Střešovická St., where Zdeněk Urbánek lived, and on that occasion we also issued a casual publication, under the title *Assault*, of Václav Havel's reporting on the emergence and first days and weeks of Charter 77 which, as he says in *Disturbing the Peace*, he wrote one time, put away somewhere and from that moment didn't know where it was. That's all I wanted to say, because we didn't want to put on a conference about Charter 77 in the eyes of historians that weren't even born in those days, or in the eyes of the StB, which are other possible approaches. Our conference is called Eye-Witnesses to the Charter."

Ales Bialiatski: Notes From Behind Bars

A collection of texts by the Belarusian dissident Ales Bialiatski, the first laureate of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize (2013).

Ales Bialiatski was born on 25 September 1962 in the town of Vyartsilya in Russia's Karelia, to where his parents had moved from Belarus for work. In 1964 the family returned to Belarus and settled in the city of Svietlahorsk.

In 1979 Bialiatski enrolled at the Faculty of History and Philology at Gomel State University and during his studies become involved in literary and civic activities. In 1984 he earned a teaching diploma. Prior to further studies at the Institute of Literature at the Belarusian Academy of Sciences he worked as a teacher at a village school in Gomel.

He underwent military service in 1985 and 1986 and subsequently returned to his studies, focusing on academic work as well as literary and civic activities. In 1986 Bialiatski became a founder of the Tutejshyja Association of Young Writers, later becoming its chair.

In 1988 he was one of the organisers of mass demonstrations in Belarus and co-founded the human rights organisation Martyrology of Belarus. He was also a member of the organising committee of the Belarussian Popular Front, later serving as its secretary and deputy chair. Since 1996 he has been the

head of the Viasna Human Rights Centre and deputy president of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH).

He worked as a specialist assistant at the Museum of the History of Belarusian History. In 1989 he was selected to become director of the Maksima Bahdanovič Literary Museum, a post he held until August 1998. He was a member of the Minsk City Council from 1991 to 1995.

Ales Bialiatski is also a member of Union of Belarusian Writers (since 1995), PEN International – Belarusian Centre and the Belarusian Association of Journalists and is the author of six books. Bialiatski was arrested in August 2011. Prior to his trial he was held in a remand prison in Minsk and at a jail in city town of Zhodzina. He served his sentence at penal colony no. 2 in Babruysk.

In November 2011 he was sentenced to four and a half years in prison on tax fraud charges. He insisted on his innocence, arguing that the funds in his accounts had been used for human rights purposes.

European Union states, the USA and international human rights groups recognised Bialiatski as a political prisoner and the verdict in his case as politically motivated. In June 2014 he received an amnesty after a large-scale international solidarity campaign. He had been in prison for 1,050 days.

His courage and consistent defence of human rights in Belarus and elsewhere in the world earned Bialiatski numerous international awards, including the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize (in January 2013). He has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize several times.

Extra-series

The work published here does not differ significantly from the Library's regular output in thematic terms; the main difference is chiefly in genre (sound recordings, DVD) and visual conception (graphics, format).

In 2018 the Václav Havel Library put out three titles in this manner: In March it presented the freshly discovered *Stín (The Shadow)* by Jiří Křižan as part of the Big Book Thursday project. By the end of the year it had sold over 1,300 copies, while publishers Tebnas, also prepared an audio book version voiced by Josef Somr. Two months later the English translation of Zdeněk Lukeš's successful guidebook to buildings linked to the life of the playwright, dissident and president, *Václav Havel's Prague*, was launched at Book World Prague.

In November the Library published *Pohádku o králi Škrábalovi*



čili o Ivanovi Krasopisci (A Fairy Tale About King Škrábal, or About Ivan Krasopicec) in connection with Ivan M. Havel's celebration of a landmark birthday; it had been written for him at the very end of WWII by his uncle Hugo Vavrečka.

At the end of the year the Library published in cooperation with the National Film Archive Jan Bernard's extensive study *Václav Havel a film. Scénáře, analýzy a úvahy z let 1957–1989 (Václav Havel and Film: Screenplays, Analyses and Essays, 1957–1989)*.

In the course of 2018 work was also carried out on the titles *Přítel a tři tečky (A Friend and Three Dots)* (a collection of Filip Topol's literary work) and *Lucerna / Barrandov* (an epic monograph on the construction activities of the Havel family). A book with the working title *Rozhovor s Oldřichem Škáchou (An Interview with Oldřich Škácha)*, comprising the final authorised interview with him supplemented by a selection of pictures tracing his "path to photography") was put back to a later date as it may be included in a planned major monograph on Škácha.

Jiří Křižan: Stín (The Shadow)

The first and last prose written by the screenwriter of the film *Sekal Has to Die*.

Stín (The Shadow) by Jiří Křižan (1941–2010) is the story of an orphaned country boy raised by his old-world, fair-minded grandfather, interspersed with "half-witted" tales from alternative military service. It is a narrative that evokes an almost physical sense of what it is like to grow up on the margins of society as a stigmatised "class enemy" and second-class "former person" due to political tyranny.

Křižan penned this story with strongly autobiographical elements when he was 17. However, he never got to see it published in his native language. At the start of the 1970s normalisation purges swept it away at the proofreading stage while all efforts to publish it at the end of the millennium proved fruitless. Now *The Shadow* has seen the light of day, though not out of a duty to replay a debt of almost half a century or as an effort to monetise a well-known writer's unknown work. It is because the text remains alive: spectacular, extraordinarily compelling and topical.

"Three times in my life I wanted to die... When I brought home a tiny coffin and brought our first son to the graveyard. On my way home from the cemetery through a wood by a stream the daphne gave off an aroma and the sun shone... I thought then I wouldn't survive... And when I buried my grandmother too. Then there was an aroma of mushrooms in the forest and my

heart ached... but in a month they showed me you, a grandson, and then it no longer ached so. As winter, spring, summer and autumn passed and you grew the pain passed... But pain never goes away. It waits and returns... You were very small when they hanged your father and my son, when they killed your mother and we remained alone. Me very old and you a nipper. You won't remember how people wouldn't greet us, how they looked at the dirt on the ground or the clouds in the sky so they wouldn't have to look at you, a little boy, how you held an old man by the hand... how people were afraid to stand beside us in the shop... Then the pain returned and shut down my heart; just a tiny bit remained there for you, and the rest has remained empty to this day... Then the second war broke out and I began dying. I don't know what it was if not God Almighty that kept me here for you, that gave me strength and health so I could in the end send you to Prague... Jarek, sell the cottage and go to college!"

Zdeněk Lukeš: Václav Havel's Prague: A Guide to Buildings and Places with a Role in the Life of the Playwright, Dissident and President (English edition)

The book *Václav Havel's Prague: A Guide to Buildings and Places with a Role in the Life of the Playwright, Dissident and President* presents structures in the Czech capital linked to this extraordinary personality. In a number of chapters it presents pictures taken by Pavel Horach and other photographers of buildings constructed by Václav Havel's grandfather and father, including the *Lucerna* and buildings in the district of *Barrandov*, as well as places connected with Havel's childhood and youth, the period of his success as a dramatist, and his years as a dissident. In the Office of President, Václav Havel initiated distinctive changes to the Castle precincts, while the book also includes places linked with the last years of his life. The mosaic includes buildings with a variety of functions – from Havel's favourite pubs, cafes, and theatres, flats of fellow dissidents, secret-police interrogation rooms, and a prison, all the way to changes he initiated in the architecture of the Castle. The seventy entries, presented here chronologically, are accompanied by biographical information about the particular periods of Havel's life, as well as maps and brief biographical sketches of the architects.

Hugo Vavrečka: Pohádka o králi Škrábalovi čili o Ivanovi Krasopisci (A Fairy Tale About King Škrábal, or About Ivan Krasopicec)

In March 1945 Hugo Vavrečka wrote his for grandson Ivan M. Havel *Pohádka o králi Škrábalovi čili Ivanovi krasopisci (A Fairy*

Tale About KingŠkrábal, or Ivan Krasopícec). Soon afterwards the text disappeared in the swirl of post-war events and only reached its intended reader (and all curious readers) in connection with celebrations of Ivan M. Havel's 80th birthday in autumn 2018, over 70 years later. Nevertheless its message remains topical: "Cold sweat arose on his forehead and his knees began to shake as he had realised that he really couldn't write a single word properly or clearly. The assembled turned silent and all that was audible was the squeak of chalk on the board. Králevič's throat constricted and his tears came to his eyes. He was sad that now, at the end of the test, which so far had gone swimmingly, his awkwardness in such a simple subject as writing had been shown up! With major effort he completed the few words that are written on a postcard. He also wrote the address of the foreign king, though it shook all over the place. Králevič knew that it was awful gibberish he had written on the board in front of the elite of his kingdom, he, the future king of the country! Ashamed, he blushed terribly and, eyes down, returned to the school throne. On his way he heard those present whisper: 'all he can do is scratch', shaking their heads all the while..."

Jan Bernard (ed.): Václav Havel a film. Scénáře, analýzy a úvahy z let 1957–1989 (Václav Havel and Film: Screenplays, Analyses and Essays, 1957–1989)

A collection of Václav Havel's "film" texts by Václav Havel compiled by Jan Bernard, a professor at the Faculty of Film at the Academy of Performing Arts.

It is no secret that Václav Havel was drawn to cinema from a young age. After all, he had grown up in a family where film had long been a big part of life – his uncle Miloš may without exaggeration be regarded as the founder of modern Czech cinematography. The antagonism of the totalitarian regime made it impossible for Václav Havel to attend film school, so he established himself, in an unplanned but nevertheless successful manner, as a theatre dramaturge and playwright. Thanks to thorough research, the editor has managed to bring together a wide range of different "film" texts: analyses of pictures for FAMU film school entrance exams, cinema-themed articles and reviews that Václav Havel published in arts magazines as a young writer, interviews and for the most part hitherto unpublished screenplays, essays and film outlines.

The volume opens with an extensive study by Jan Bernard of Havel's activities in the field of film prior to 1989. It delivers interesting, little-known information from Havel's life, including

about his involvement with the prankster group Paleta vlasti (Palette of the Homeland) and his part in creating the scenario for the Expo world's fair in Montreal. As regards his work as an author, the book includes *Vojna (Military Service)*, a newly discovered screenplay from his FAMU entrance exams; the hitherto unpublished screenplay *Heart Beat*, written with Jan Němec; *Osudná noc (A Fateful Night)*, a screenplay based on Vasil Biřák's *Paměti (Memoirs)*; and synopses of the unmade pictures *Budování zámku (Building a Chateau)* and *Návštěva (The Visit)*. The book is supplemented by a filmography, index and above all a large number of unique photographs and documents, many of which are published for the first time.

Publishing cooperation

In this area the Library alongside publishing biographical books about Václav Havel focused in 2018 on cooperation on the publication of the *Deníku Pavla Juráčka (Diary of Pavel Juráček)* (Torst publishing house). The collaboration consisted in the provision of archival materials, consultations with the authors and carrying out pieces of research.

Pavel Juráček: Deník III. 1959–1974 (Diary III, 1959–1974)

The third volume in the monumental diary work of the major Czech film director contains his diary entries from 1959 to 1974, when the films he wrote and directed were made: *Postava k podpírání (Joseph Kilian) (1963)*, *Každý mladý muž (Every Young Man) (1965)* and *Případ pro začínajícího kata (A Case for a Rookie Hangman) (1969)*.

Here we are witness to his dramatic personal and creative wanderings in the context of the social and political events of the late 1950s and 1960s, which were a spawning ground for the unique works of the Czech New Wave. The deeply personal, brilliant in literary terms and even lacerating entries of those years reflect Juráček's struggle with his own talent, which he was incapable of controlling, just like his relationships with classmates, colleagues and women, resulting in a self-destructive lifestyle.

The diary entries do not lack for masterful fabulation or levity, humour, an ironic view of himself and sarcasm. In comparison with a NFA release in 2003, it has been expanded to also include further documents from the author's estate (notes, essays, articles from 1962–1966, a military service notebook, a diary from Montreal).

The World of Václav Havel

The programme under the heading **The World of Václav Havel** comprises a variety of domestic and foreign events linked to the life and philosophical legacy of Václav Havel that the Library organises or is actively involved in. In 2018 its central plank was the fifth annual Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, alongside the project Václav Havel European Dialogues and participation in international and domestic events.

Václav Havel European Dialogues

The Václav Havel European Dialogues is an international project that aims to initiate and stimulate discussion on issues determining the direction of contemporary Europe while referring to the European spiritual legacy of Václav Havel. The project takes its main inspiration from Václav Havel's essay *The Power of the Powerless*. More than other similarly focused projects, the Václav Havel European Dialogues aim to offer the "powerless" a platform to express themselves and in so doing to strengthen their position within Europe.

It is planned as a long-term project and involves cooperation with other organisations in various European cities. Individual events, which take the form of conferences, discussions, debates or meetings, are targeted primarily at secondary and third-level students, as well as specialists and members of the public interested in European issues.

14 May | DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague The Czech Republic at the European Crossroads

The fifth annual conference of the project Václav Havel European Dialogues was focused on the issue of Europe and its geopolitical cultural commonplaces, differences and identity.

What has 14 years of membership of the European Union brought us? What advantages have we enjoyed thanks to it? Or have we, by contrast, lost something? Why is there increasing scepticism about the EU? Are there perhaps other alternatives? What does the EU represent for the future of our

country? And what do we represent for its future? These and similar questions were explored in the fifth edition of the Václav Havel European Dialogues.

On one hand, a path is drawn to deepening European integration – expansion of monetary union, the building of collective defence and responsibility for foreign policy. On the other, calls for greater decentralisation and the return of some powers to national level are growing louder. Neither of these positions reflects the issue of European identity, the spiritual ethos connecting member states and their citizens called for by Václav Havel.

The Václav Havel European Dialogues conference initiated and helmed a discussion on current issues shaping the future direction of contemporary Europe, while referring to the spiritual legacy of Václav Havel. The event provided a forum for meetings between notable figures from the fields of sociology, economics, politics and journalism, but also young people and students, novice politicians and activists, at which they can discuss, together and with members of the public, topical issues facing the Czech Republic and respectively Europe.

The executive director of the Václav Havel Library, Michael Žantovský, and the head of the Representation of the European Commission in the CR, Dana Kovaříková, greeted the students, representatives of various civic initiatives and journalists at the beginning of the conference.

Reporter, documentary maker and director Janek Rubeš delivered the opening address.

The first panel was entitled, deliberately provocatively, “What good is the Union to us?” and was chaired by Světlana Witowská. Speakers were Roman Joch (journalist, Civic Institute), Lukáš Kovanda (economist, CYRRUS), Mikulaš Minař (Million Moments for Democracy) and Prokop Ondraček (grammar school student, winner of the VH Library prize for best student essay, 2017).

The second panel “What if the Union didn’t exist...” was moderated by Veronika Sedlačková and featured Martin Buchtik (sociologist, STEM), Václav Kříž (civic activist, Young Citizens), Andrea Procházková (journalist, Respekt) and Tomáš Sedlaček (economist).

A discussion at noon on 1968 in the East of the West was conducted by Michael Žantovský with Jacques Rupnik (political scientist, SciencesPo) and Gabriel Eichler (entrepreneur and chair of the board of trustees of the VH Library).

The afternoon part of the conference began with a discussion with scholarship holders from the Václav Havel Journalism Fellowship / Jiří Dienstbier Journalism Fellowship run by Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty: Joanna Levinson (RFE/RL), Una Čilić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Raman Protasevič (Belarus), Glib Zhavoronkov (Ukraine), Nektar Zogjani (Kosovo). It was chaired by presenter Emma Smetana (DVTV).

The third and final panel, “What could the Union be and is not?”, was moderated by Kateřina Šafaříková (Respekt) and saw contributions from Marek Hilšer (doctor and civic activist), Petr Hlavaček (historian, Collegium Europaeum), Petra Hůlova (novelist) and Barbora Urbanová (Stužak initiative).

The conference concluded with summing up from Michael Žantovský.

The conference The Czech Republic at the European Crossroads was held in cooperation with the Representation of the European Commission in the CR, Sekyra Group and the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art.

27 November | Prague House, Avenue Palmerston, Brussels Strengthening Democracy in the EU Neighbourhood: Integration as an Effective Leverage?

The autumn part of the European Dialogues took place, as is traditional, in Brussels and saw two panel discussions. One focused on the shared and simultaneously undermined values (e.g., human rights, democracy, civic society) on which the EU was built, while the other looked at the phenomenon of the Western Balkans as an area “ready” for EU accession while at the same time deviating in many respects.



Janek Rubeš at the conference The Czech Republic at the European Crossroads.





Announcement of the three finalists for the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize.



*Participants in the conference *The Unbearable Lightness of Evil*.*

Speakers at the conference were Jakub Durr (CR), Jaroslav Kurfurst, (CR), Pavel Svoboda (CR), Věra Jourova (CR), Eric Maurice (France), Petras Auštrevičius (Lithuania), David Kramer (USA), Jerzy Pomianowski (Poland), Šimon Pánek (CR) and Nenad Pejić (Bosnia and Herzegovina). Michael Žantovský (CR) served as moderator.

The 2018 Václav Havel European Dialogues in Brussels were organised by the Permanent Representation of the CR to the EU, the Czech Centre Brussels, the Embassy of the Czech Republic in the Kingdom of Belgium, Prague House and the Václav Havel Library.

The Václav Havel Human Rights Prize

The prize is bestowed in memory of Václav Havel, playwright, fighter against totalitarianism, leader of the 1989 Velvet Revolution, Czechoslovak and Czech president, and a symbol of vigilance against despotism. Individuals, non-governmental organisations and institutions advocating for adherence to human rights may be nominated. Alongside a diploma and a plaque, laureates of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize receive a reward of EUR 60,000.

A seven-member committee headed by the president of the Parliamentary Assembly or their designee selects the recipient of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize. Three jury members are named by the office of the Parliamentary Assembly and three by the Václav Havel Library in conjunction with the Charter 77 Foundation, conditional on none of them being currently in the Parliamentary Assembly. The committee assesses all the nominees and chooses three finalists, whose names are made public a month before the announcement of the winner. This takes place at the first autumn plenary session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. All three finalists are invited to the prize announcement in Strasbourg before moving on to Prague for an international conference in honour of the laureate. The six independent members of the committee are appointed for two years and are allowed to continue for a second term.

The nomination process for the fifth year of the award was open from the first half of January to the end of May 2018. On the basis of nominations received by 28 August 2018, the seven-member expert committee selected and informed the trio of finalists:

ROSA MARIA PAYA (CUBA), a young Cuban democracy and human rights activist. Rosa Maria Paya has continued the work of her late father Oswaldo Paya, who strove to win support for democratic change in Cuba. She founded the civic group Cuba Decide and is president of the Latin American Youth Network for Democracy.

NABEEL RAJAB (BAHRAIN), a very important democracy and human rights advocate in Bahrain who has been in custody since 2016. He is the cofounder and president of the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights (BCHR) and does all he can for the benefit of others despite being persecuted by the authorities.

OYUB TITIEV (RUSSIAN FEDERATION), a human rights campaigner and head the Memorial Human Rights Centre in Chechnya's Grozny in custody since January 2018. His predecessor in the position, Natalya Estemirova, was murdered in 2009. He has made a major contribution to human rights in the region and works as a rapporteur monitoring the abuse of power by the local authorities.

Chechen human rights campaigner Oyub Titiev was selected as 2018 laureate. The president of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Liliane Maury Pasquier, presented the prize to Titiev's representative Alexandr Cherkasov in Strasbourg on 8 October 2018.

The Unbearable Lightness of Evil

The Václav Havel Library organised the international conference *The Unbearable Lightness of Evil* (10 October 2018, Prague Crossroads) in honour of the laureate and its tone was highly urgent: "The human rights situation in the world is not improving. In the wake of appalling experiences in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, the threat of public condemnation, economic sanctions or direct international intervention represented a relatively effective means of preventing the grossest forms of human rights abuses. However, such instruments are only effective if they are thoroughly applied.

Today's dictators needn't worry much about the consequences of their actions. For the most part war atrocities in Syria, the crimes of so-called Islamic State against civilian populations and the repression of human rights in China, Turkey, Cuba, Russia and Venezuela take place without effective condemnation and often without the attention of the outside media. There is no consensus that would allow for thorough investigation of the most



Alexandr Cherkasov, representative of the imprisoned Oyub Titiev.



Adam Rajab, son of the imprisoned Nabeela Rajab.



Rosa Maria Payá Acevedo.



serious crimes against human rights and the establishment of mechanisms to punish them. This allows tyrannical regimes to relativise or play down their actions, to accuse the other side of being behind them and to criminalise human rights activists or portray them as the puppets of foreign powers. There is practically no consensus that would allow for the investigation and prosecution of human rights violations. Though it is not a new strategy, modern technology for disseminating information combined with declining attention from the governments of developed countries gives them greater hope of success.

The issue of human rights calls for mobilisation on the part of governments and international institutions in cooperation with non-governmental organisations and the renewal or introduction of effective sanctions against human rights violators.”

The conference was launched by Václav Havel Library executive director Michael Žantovský, who also helmed a discussion with the finalists. Alongside the finalists and a representative of Oyub Titiev, noteworthy Czech and international personalities took part: Šimon Pánek (director of People in Need, Czech Republic), Edipcia Juliana Dubon Castro (democracy campaigner, Nicaragua), Mahienour El-Massry (lawyer and civic activist, Egypt), Hulya Gulbahar (lawyer, Turkey), Tereza Engelová (journalist, Czech Republic), Adam Michnik (historian and dissident, Poland), Daniel Berg (politician, Hungary), Juraj Šeliga (lawyer and civic activist, Slovakia), Erik Tabery (journalist, editor-in-chief of weekly Respekt, Czech Republic), Jakub Železný (journalist and TV presenter, Czech Republic). The closing address was delivered by Karel Schwarzenberg (founder of the VH Library and human rights campaigner, Czech Republic).

Following the conference the guests and speakers attended a concert entitled A Tribute to the Brave, which was also an expression of respect to those who have faced or are today forced to face injustices of any kind.

Works by Bohuslav Martinů, Pavel Haas, Gideon Klein and other composers persecuted by the Nazi or communist regimes were performed by leading musicians. During part of the concert the stage and audience in Prague was connected to Bratislava via high-speed internet.

The concert was held in cooperation with the Faculty of Music and Dance at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague and the CESNET association.

The conference The Unbearable Lightness of Evil was held in cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council

of Europe, the Charta 77 Foundation, the Dagmar and Václav Havel Vision 97 Foundation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the CR and Czech Television.

The Václav Havel Library abroad

- 1.–4. March Warsaw (Poland)
- 17.–18. March Stockholm (Sweden)
- 2.–15. April USA
- 7.–8. May Geneva (Switzerland)
- 16.–17. May Bucharest (Romania)
- 17. July – 2. August USA
- 21.–22. August Vilnius (Lithuania)
- 19. September Dresden (Germany)
- 24.–29. September Mexico
- 11.–13. October Paris (France)
- 6.–11. November Toronto (Canada)
- 8.–9. November Cottbus (Germany)
- 8.–9. November Brussels (Belgium)
- 27.–28. November Brussels (Belgium)

Domestic events

11 April

REMEMBERING 1918: TURNING POINT FOR EUROPE

What is the meaning of the year 1918 for today's European politics and society? And what role did it play in conceptions of the Europe of the 21st century?

Historians, journalists, teachers and other speakers from seven European countries compared viewpoints and discussed the contemporary meaning of the year 1918, above all with regard to the interpretations ascribed to 1918 throughout the 20th century. The debate was intended to foster greater understanding of 1918 and the consequences it had from the Western and Eastern European perspectives, as well as how those perceptions have shaped views today, how individual countries change the interpretation of history and how this may impact politics among EU countries.

The debate was organised by the Czech Centre in cooperation with the Václav Havel Library, the BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts, Finnish Institute Benelux, the organisations Culture Action Europe and EUNIC, the Austrian Cultural Forum, the Slovak Institute and the Polish Institute Prague.

Opening addresses: Karel Schwarzenberg and Czech Centre representatives

REMEMBERING 1918 IN PRAGUE

1918 EUROPEAN DREAMS OF MODERNITY 100 YEARS ON

11/04/2018

<p>REMEMBERING 1918: TURNING POINT FOR EUROPE</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">DEBATE / What is the meaning of the year 1918 in various European countries for today's politics and society and what role it played in imagining the 21st century? Historians, journalists, teachers and other speakers from seven European countries will address these issues.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">WHERE / Václav Havel Library START / 16:30</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">Free entry. Registration required here.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">MORE INFORMATION / FACEBOOK</p>	<p>VZPOMÍNKY NA ROK 1918: BOD ZVRATU PRO EVROPU</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">KONFERENCE / Jaký význam má rok 1918 v různých evropských zemích pro dnešní politiku a společnost a jakou roli sehrál v předstávách o Evropě 21. století? O tom budou hovořit historici, novináři, učitelé a další tečníci ze sedmi evropských zemí.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">KDE / Knihovna Václava Havla ZAČÁTEK / 16:30</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">Vstup zdarma. Registrace nutná zde.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">VÍCE INFORMACÍ / FACEBOOK</p>
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09-18/04/2018

<p>REMEMBERING 1918 THROUGH FILM</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">FILM SCREENINGS / 5 film screenings of various European countries followed by debates with interesting guests</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">09/04 / Italy / Greenery Will Bloom Again 10/04 / Latvia / Defenders of Riga 12/04 / Poland / Damaged 14/04 / Austria / New World 18/04 / Romania / A Century for Romania</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">WHERE / Italian Institute Prague START / 18:30</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">Free entry. Registration not required.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">MORE INFORMATION / FACEBOOK</p>	<p>VZPOMÍNKY NA ROK 1918 VE FILMU</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">FILMOVÁ PROMÍTÁNÍ / 5 filmových promítání různých evropských států doplněných o debaty se zajímavými hosty</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">09/04 / Itálie / Louky zase pokvetou 10/04 / Lotyšsko / Obránci Rigy 12/04 / Polsko / Panický Dulaké 14/04 / Rakousko / Nový svět 18/04 / Rumunsko / Století pro Rumunsko</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">KDE / Italský institut v Praze ZAČÁTEK / 18:30</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">Vstup zdarma. Registrace není nutná.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: #e91e63;">VÍCE INFORMACÍ / FACEBOOK</p>
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50 years of the Prague Spring and determination for freedom.

Panel I: Perceptions of the year 1918 in “old” and “new” states
Chaired by historian Adela Gjuričová. Speakers: Gyorgy Cse-
peli, social psychologist (Hungary), Miroslav Michela, historian
(Slovakia), Christoph Prantner, journalist (Austria), Jan Hanzlík,
historian (Czech Republic).

Panel II: Perceptions of 1918 in Western and Eastern Europe
Moderated by journalist Pavlína Kvapilová. Speakers: Machteld
Venken, University of Vienna associate professor (Belgium),
Kalle Kallio, director Werstas Labour Museum (Finnish), Václav
Kuneš, history teacher (Czech Republic) and historian Lukasz
Jasina (Poland).

12 April

THE INCREASED DIFFICULTY OF CONCENTRATION ON SPRING 1968

Fifty years ago, on 11 April 1968, the last premiere for some
time of a play by Václav Havel, *The Increased Difficulty of Con-
centration*, took place at the Divadlo Na zábradlí theatre.

This evening was dedicated several seemingly different themes
of that 1968 spring. Names from the “golden era” of the famous
theatre are leaving Divadlo Na zábradlí. During the Prague Spring,
Václav Havel becomes involved – in his own way, of course – in the
process of democratisation. At the same time, however, he packs
his suitcase for a trip to the US and Western Europe. What’s more,
his creative plans start to focus more on filmmaking

We discussed his latest findings about the history of Divadlo
Na zábradlí with theatre historian Martin J. Švejda, as well as
presenting lesser-known documents from that era from the ar-
chive of the Václav Havel Library. There was also theatre.

In the second half of the evening Academy of Performing Arts
acting student performed, overseen by teacher Jaroslava Šik-
tancová, excerpts from *The Increased Difficulty of Concentra-
tion*, a comedy about a man incapable of choosing between his
wife and a lover and whose mind becomes incapable of working
toward anything conceptually or even orienting itself in time.

18 April

50 YEARS OF THE PRAGUE SPRING AND DETERMINATION FOR FREEDOM

A discussion on the situation of citizens in non-democratic re-
gimes and their determination to fight for freedom using the
example of the 1968 Prague Spring. Public figures and Czech
and German politicians discussed the state of law and democ-
racy today.

Alexandra Mostýn moderated the debate.

Organised by the Czech-German Association of Lawyers, the Hanns Seidel Foundation Prague, the Václav Havel Library and the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

Simultaneously interpreted into Czech and German.

Programme:

Guests were welcomed by Michael Žantovský, director of the Václav Havel Library. Speakers:

Tilman Schmidt (president, Czech-German Association of Lawyers) and Ondřej Matějka (deputy director, Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes). Opening address: Robert Pelikán, outgoing minister of justice.

PANEL I: *Legal positivism and determination for freedom*

Speakers: Petr Bohata (DTJV, Institute for Eastern European Law Munich, Regensburg) on “Legal developments toward the Prague Spring”; Michael Žantovský (director, Václav Havel Library) on “The legacy of the 1968 Prague Spring”; Friedrich Graf von Westphalen (lawyer, chairman of Karlovy Vary Law Days, Dusseldorf) on “Growing demands for legal action in the EU – the refugee crisis and the state of law approaches toward Poland”

PANEL II: *Experiences and approach to totalitarianism*

Speakers: Blanka Mouralová (political scientist, Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes) on “Czech reflection on totalitarianism post 1989”; Lutz Quester (one-time citizen of the GDR Nuremberg) on “The life story of political prisoner from Bautzen”; Markus Meckel (SPD, former foreign minister, Berlin) on “Prague 1968 – signals of hope and depression to neighbouring Communist countries”

PANEL III: *Politics today: a Czech-German perspective*

Speakers: Alexandra Mostýn (taz correspondent in Prague) in conversation with Klaus Brahmig (former member of Bundestag, CDU, member of board of trustees of Czech-German Fund for Future), Hans Peter Friedrich (vice-president and member of Bundestag, CSU, former interior minister, Berlin) Ernst Giese (lawyer, Giese & Partner, Prague) and Martin Kastler (director, Hanns Seidel Foundation, Prague) delivered closing addresses

25 April

POLISH-CZECHOSLOVAK SOLIDARITY

Meetings in forests on the guarded Polish-Czechoslovak border. Shared interest in the fates of the political prisoners of both Communist states. The exchange of samizdat publications and

Setkání ke 40. výročí založení Výboru na obranu nespravedlivě stíhaných

26. dubna 2018, 17 hodin
Knihovna Václava Havla, Ostrovní 13, Praha 1
www.vaclavhavel-library.org

Kamila Bendová, Petruška Šustrová and Anna Šabatová at a meeting marking the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Prosecuted.



Uncertain nation. From left, Petr Hlaváček, Erik Tabery and Petr Pithart.

information. The phenomenon of Polish-Czechoslovak solidarity brings together courage, friendship and sense of humour. A new Czech translation of the book *Hranicím navzdory. Příběh Polsko-československé solidarity* (Despite the Border: The Story of Polish-Czechoslovak Solidarity) (ÚSTR, Prague 2018) was launched by its authors, Łukasz Kamiński, a Polish historian and former director of Poland's Institute of National Remembrance, and Petr Blažek, a Czech historian based at the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, and many Poles and Czechs who remember those times.

The discussion was chaired by Maciej Ruczaj, director of the Polish Institute in Prague.

A unique international opposition group emerged in 1981 when representatives of Poland's Workers' Defence Committee (KOR) and Charter 77 signed a secret agreement on cooperation. It is symbolic that Polish and Czech historians – Łukasz Kamiński, Petr Blažek and Grzegorz Majewski – were involved in a publication devoted to Polish-Czech Solidarity, an initiative based on mutual sympathy and bringing together figures whose outlooks were frequently at odds.

26 April

COMMITTEE FOR DEFENCE OF UNJUSTLY PROSECUTED – GATHERING MARKING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDATION

The reason for the establishment of the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Prosecuted (VONS in Czech) in April 1978 was the necessity of drawing attention at home and especially abroad to those opponents of totalitarianism who were not publicly known, meaning there were no campaigns in their support. In discussion panels we explored the creation of the committee, how it operated and how its information was distributed abroad. We also reflected on the dramatic events of 1979, when the state decided to destroy the committee; in May 16 members were arrested, of which six (including Václav Havel) received jail terms of several years.

Panel I: THE FOUNDATION OF VONS

The motives for the foundation of the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Prosecuted in April 1978 included the positive experience of the work of the "Committee for the Three" and efforts to highly the cases of those who were unknown to the public in the West or Czechoslovakia itself, meaning the authorities could persecute them without fear of public campaigns in their support.

Guests: Kamila Bendová, Anna Šabatová and Zofia Romaszewska.

Petruška Šustrová moderated.

Panel II. EFFORTS TO DESTROY VONS AND ITS SURVIVAL

In May 1979 the state decided to destroy the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Prosecuted. Sixteen members were arrested. Ten of the most active were placed on remand and six were convicted that autumn. However, 12 new members signed up and the committee's work continued.

Guests: Dana Němcová, Jan Čarnogurský, Jiří Gruntorád, Václav Malý and Jan Ruml.

Petruška Šustrová moderated.

10 May

BOOKS FROM THE VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY

The English edition of Zdeněk Lukeš's *Václav Havel's Prague*, Jiří Křižan's recently rediscovered *Stín (The Shadow)* and e-volumes of the legendary *Talks from Lány* radio shows were presented at the Book World Prague with the involvement of noteworthy guests of Václav Havel Library editors.

21 May

AN UNCERTAIN NATION?

Czechs and Their Search for a Politics, "... Czechs are old winners." – Václav Havel, *The Czech Lot?* (1969)

Since the Czechs took shape as a modern nation we have frequently faced what is referred to as the Czech question: To what degree is the Czech society a self-aware political nation? What in fact is the Czech relationship to the country's own statehood and to politics in general? How are the advances and agonies of the 20th century projected into such reflections? And in this context how can we interpret today's political reality, in which the Czechs often appear an "uncertain nation" and an "abandoned society" still searching for an "advantageous culprit" for all its troubles? Why are phrases such as political consensus and civic responsibly regarded as perfidy or folly in today's Czech Republic? A century after the establishment of Czech statehood in the form of a democratic and republican Czechoslovakia, are Czechs a politically "immature" nation, or is that gross defamation?

The topical question of Czech political existence (in the historical context) was discussed by historian and philosopher Petr Hlaváček, political thinker and one-time top politician Petr Pithart and journalist Erik Tabery.

Michael Žantovský chaired the debate.



The birth of an activist with a realistic philosophy. From left Karol Sidon, Petr Pithart, Jan Mervart.





Ágnes Heller (Discussion with participants in 1968 protests).



Mustafa Dzhemilev (Discussion with participants in 1968 protests).



Pavel Litvinov (Discussion with participants in 1968 protests).

29 May

THE BIRTH OF AN ACTIVIST WITH A REALISTIC PHILOSOPHY – VÁCLAV HAVEL AS A POLITICAL PERSON

Václav Havel experienced the events of the Prague Spring just as intensely as many of his peers. However, unlike others he remained unmoved by official rhetoric, catchy slogans or utopian visions of socialism with a human face. He approached the tumultuous developments cautiously, with a degree of scepticism and realism.

The milestones of that period, from Havel's speech at the Fourth Congress of the Czechoslovak Union of Writers to the mooted formation of an independent political party, his role in the inception of the Circle of Independent Writers, his energetic contribution to the nationwide resistance in the days following the Soviet-led invasion on 21 August 1968 and his polemic with Milan Kundera on the Czech lot were discussed by Michael Žantovský and guests Eda Kriseová, Karol Sidon, Jan Mervart and others.

9 June

PRAGUE MUSEUM NIGHT

Václav Havel has already completed his work but how do we approach the world around us?

The pre-premiere of *Man of Inspiration*, a series of educational video lessons focused on human rights through the prism of the life and work of Václav Havel. The 10-minute lessons will be screened one by one, with one shown every 30 minutes. The lessons are presented by Emma Smetana and the dancer Yemi. The night also featured screenings from the Read Havel project, comprising short video excerpts from the oeuvre of Václav Havel showing just how contemporary his texts remain. Visitors had the chance to encounter Kovy, Do Thu Tang, Janek Rubeš, Adam Mišík and others on screen.

21 August

DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS IN PROTESTS AGAINST THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1968

Hungarian philosopher Ágnes Heller, Russian mathematician Pavel Litvinov, Polish documentary maker Joanna Helander and Crimean Tatar politician Mustafa Dzhemilev comprised a group of foreign guests who accepted invitations from the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the Václav Havel Library on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops.

All of the guests had one thing in common: they decided to take part in public protests in countries that had taken part in the invasion. They paid for that brave stance by being thrown out of their studies or places of work and by forced immigration, years of internal exile, prison or spells in psychiatric clinics.

Three of the most best known thinkers and movers of the late 1960s – Ágnes Heller, Pavel Litvinov and Mustafa Dzhemilev – took part a discussion at the Václav Havel Library. The debate, which was chaired by Josef Pazderka, focused on a comparison of societal changes in 1968 and in 2018, particularly in Hungary, the US and Ukraine.

The foreign guests' visit to the Czech Republic was organised by the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the Václav Havel Library. It was supported financially via a one-off grant from the City of Prague.

6 September

AUGUST 1968 IN LIBEREC

Discussion centred on the tragic events of August 1968 in Liberec, where Warsaw Pact troops killed nine people and injured dozens in the initial days of the invasion. The then resistance included broadcasts by the radio station in Liberec involving Václav Havel and Jan Tříska. Speakers included architect Miroslav Masák, historian Markéta Lhotová and a number of others. Tomáš Černý moderated.

Organised in cooperation with the Museum of North Bohemia in Liberec.

21 September

THE VH LIBRARY AT BOOK WORLD PLZEŇ TRADE FAIR

A stand presenting books published by the Václav Havel Library and an accompanying programme in the form of the launch of the new title *Mé vzpomínky (My Memoirs)* by Václav Maria Havel, a remarkable figure whose entrepreneurial spirit was naturally married to social responsibility. The book can also be read as a monumental fresco of the early days of modern Czech history.

Guests: Ivan M. Havel, Michael Žantovský, Pavel Hájek.

16 October

FROM LONG HAIRS TO THE UNDERGROUND: CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1970–1975

The fourth edition of this international conference mapped a crucial period in the Czech underground. At the end of 1969 virtually nobody would have believed that just five years later

Hrajte Havla aneb Zítřka to spustíme na škole!



Zajímá Vaše studenty (ať už základní, střední nebo základní umělecké školy) historie? Máte na škole divadelní či filmový kroužek, anebo učíte holky a kluky, které „jen“ baví (si) hrát? Ano? Pak Vás srdečně zveme, abyste spolu s Knihovnou Václava Havla tvůrčím způsobem oslavili 100. výročí vzniku Československa: zapojili se do divadelně vzdělávacího projektu Zítřka to spustíme.



Light dance studio (Tomorrow).



1st discussion panel: *A work of great salvation (Engineers of Humanity).*



2nd discussion panel: *America in Czechoslovakia (Engineers of Humanity).*

there would be a sizable underground throughout the Czech regions, what's more with its own "programme".

The ever more psychedelic Plastic People of the Universe, as a professional group under the artistic "supervision" of Ivan Martin Jirous, known as Magor, were still appearing until May 1970. However, two years later they finally came into inevitable conflict with the normalisation powers, culminating in mass purges across the community. Magor himself found himself in a Communist jail for the first time (from 28 July 1973 until 31 May 1974) and "his" Plastics made what was in effect their final public appearance on 1 December 1973. Only invited audiences were able to attend further concerts, risking trouble with the police. This was seen in full effect in Rudolfov on 30 March 1974 when brutal and shocking violence was used against young people who had gathered for a (never played) Plastics and DG 307 concert. It was no coincidence that not long afterwards Jirous penned one of his key texts, Report on the Third Musical Revival (February 1975), which not only "defined" the Czech underground but also described how things then stood. The first half of the 1970s saw not only "notorious" underground events, such as the First Festival of the "Second" Culture in Postupice (1 September 1974) but also a rich and varied sub-cultural life in northern Bohemia and elsewhere.

These and other subjects were the focus of the conference, at which speakers included Barbora Bothová, Jan Blüml, Jan Cholínský, Ladislav Kudrna, Martin Machovec, Petr Placák, František "Čuňas" Stárek, Michal Stehlík, Martin Tharp, Martin Valenta and Petra Veselá.

27 November

WHEN WILL IT GO OFF? TOMORROW

Where? In Teplice, in Liberec, in Prague... in all of the country's regions.

Václav Havel's play Tomorrow is focused on Alois Rašín and the dramatic events of the night of 27 to 28 October 1918 preceding the declaration of the independent Czechoslovak Republic. Tens of schools responded to a call from the Václav Havel Library for students and pupils to mark the centenary of Czechoslovakia by staging Tomorrow. They recorded for us the performances they put on in their villages, towns and cities. The project culminated with a theatre event at the Prague theatre Divadlo v Dlouhé where the producers of the best school productions came together.

The project was carried out with the financial support of the Czech Ministry of Culture.

5 December



ENGINEERS OF HUMANITY: AMERICAN AID IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOLLOWING WWI

In connection with the centenary of Czechoslovakia and the establishment of modern-day Czech-American relations, the humanitarian and development aid the US provided to the newly established Czechoslovak state in its first years of existence deserves to be remembered. The aim of two discussion panels was to foster a debate on the significance of the presence of US non-profit, volunteer and aid organisations in Czechoslovakia, evaluate their legacy within the broader concept of the “Americanisation” of Czechoslovakia and discuss the political background to their work. They also focused on how cooperation between the Czechoslovaks and Americans functioned and what values, ideas and know-how were brought by, for instance, Hoover’s food aid, the Christian organisations YMCA and YWCA, the American Red Cross and others, as well as how this highly organised human(itarian)ism helped Czechoslovakia materially and left its mark on the civic sector.

Welcome: Michael Žantovský, opening address: Stephen B. King, Ambassador of the USA to the CR

Panel I: “A work of great salvation”: Hoover’s food aid to Europe and Czechoslovakia

Guests: Bertrand Patenaude (Hoover Institution, Stanford University) and Halina Parafianowicz (Institute of History and Political Science of the Białystok University). Michael Žantovský moderated.

Panel II: “America in Czechoslovakia”: American non-profit organisations and the development of Czechoslovakia after WWI

Guests: Milada Polišíenská (Anglo-American University in Prague), Petr Chlápek (YMCA), Růžena Zaoralová and Roman Zaoral (Faculty of Humanities, Charles University), Marek Skovajsa (Institute of Sociology, Czech Academy of Sciences, Faculty of Humanitarian Studies, Charles University). Jana Čechurová moderated.

The project took place with the kind financial support of the Embassy of the USA in Prague.

6 December

WHAT KIND OF COUNTRY DO YOU DREAM OF?

Essay competition 10th edition

In 2018 the Václav Havel Library received a total of 118 student essays from 39 schools in 10 regions of the Czech Republic. The theme of the 10th edition was “What kind of country do you dream of?”

The theme was inspired by the centenary of Czechoslovakia’s foundation and Václav Havel’s first New Year’s presidential address (1.1.1990). “You may ask what kind of republic I dream of. Let me reply: I dream of a republic independent, free, and democratic, of a republic economically prosperous and yet socially just; in short, of a humane republic that serves the individual and that therefore holds the hope that the individual will serve it in turn. Of a republic of well-rounded people, because without such people it is impossible to solve any of our problems – human, economic, ecological, social, or political.”

The announcement of the results was attended by students and teachers from participating schools and jury members.

The project was supported for the third year by a grant from the Ministry of Culture of the CR.

EXHIBITIONS

From 25 February 2018 | Google Cultural Institute
(online platform)

Faces of Resistance

(also accessible as a standalone project at tvare-vzdoru.vaclavhavel-library.org)

The exhibition – launched symbolically on 25 February 2018, 70 years after the outbreak of a Communist putsch in then Czechoslovakia – introduces via photographs by Pavel Hroch and texts from Adam Drda, Luděk Navara, Jiří Peňás and Jan Horník the life stories of 50 people who between 1938/39 and 1989 managed to stand up to evil, risk their lives and place justice and civility above their own calm and comfort.

23 May – 6 June 2018 | National Library in Pristina (Kosovo)

Oldřich Škácha: Prague ‘68 and Actress Dobroshi Jumping Joyfully for World Peace

The collection of black and white photographs “Prague ‘68” eloquently sums up Communist power in Central Europe in the second half of the 20th century, thus contrasting with pictures by various photographers from a project by Kosovo-Albanian actress Arta Dobroshi. It was a celebration of the joy of an ordinary human gesture conceived as a message of peace, concentrating on the moment of the actress’s leap, whenever and wherever she is, with either familiar or unfamiliar people. The pinnacle of an imaginary triangle whose two peaks create helplessness and despair on one side, joy and hope on the other, was the critical viewer.

**1 August – 30 September 2018 | Na Příkopech St., Blatná
Oldřich Škácha: August 1968**

A unique collection of photographs from the initial days of the occupation of Czechoslovakia in August 1968 by the reportage and documentary photographer Oldřich Škácha (1941–2014), who is chiefly known for portraits of notable figures from Czechoslovak and Czech culture, the dissent and the exile community.

**6–30 August 2018 | Old Town Hall, Prague
Soviet Invasion – August 1968 in the Eyes of 40
photographers**

An exhibition of 190 photographs capturing through the eyes of 40 photographers crucial moments in Czechoslovak history between August 1968 and spring 1969 for which the Václav Havel Library provided the photographs by Oldřich Škácha, selected by curator and photographer Dana Kyndrová.

**15 August – 16 September 2018 | České centrum fotogra-
fie, Prague**

Oldřich Škácha: Occupation 1968

The 50th anniversary of the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops was a unique opportunity to exhibit a complex collection of photographs recalling one of the most tragic events in Czech – and European – history in the second half of the 20th century. It allowed the public to become acquainted with a lesser known aspect of Oldřich Škácha's work that after five decades remains spellbinding and whose authenticity also serves as a warning against contemporary threats to human rights and freedoms.

**From 21 August 2018 | Google Cultural Institute
(online platform)**

Oldřich Škácha: Occupation 1968

Online version of an exhibition prepared in conjunction with České centrum fotografie – see above.

**10 October – 14 November 2018 | Lucerna Palace, Prague
Václav Havel – Zběšičky 1901**

An exhibition of unique restored photographs from the Havel family archive, originally created on glass plates. Curated by Ondřej Němec.

The Václav Havel Library Club

The Václav Havel Club is one of the Library's key activities for the public and is part of the World of Václav of Havel. Within its framework, events targeted particularly at students and those interested in literature, theatre, contemporary history, political debate and general social themes are held at the Library's premises.

Family and Friends of Václav Havel

14 February

PAVEL TIGRID: LONDON CALLING

Václav Havel: "From my youth, Pavel Tigríd was for me above all an important and credible mirror of modern history. He wasn't only a witness to troubled history but helped shape it. Tigríd was one of our certainties. He exists as an idea, a stance, an inspiration, a yardstick."

Pavel Tigríd (1917–2003) returned to his past with characteristic temperance when shortly after the war he wrote the now forgotten article *Volá Londýn* (*London Calling*). In it he captured the experience of wartime London, the BBC and the Czechoslovak exile community. The text is supplemented by a hitherto unreleased Tigríd programme for the BBC's wartime broadcasts as well as a study exploring the context of Tigríd's wartime exile and the fates of his friends and companions. The book *Volá Londýn. Ze zákulisí československého vysílání z Londýna* (*London Calling: Behind the Scenes of Czechoslovak Broadcasting from London*) was published on the centenary of Tigríd's birth by the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

Prokop Tomek (Military History Institute, Prague), Petr Orság (head of the Department of Media and Culture Studies and Journalism at Olomouc's Palacký University) presented the book and discussed Tigríd's work and life with other guests.

21 February

OLGA HAVLOVÁ'S LEGACY IN THE EYES OF THE YOUNG GENERATION: WHO DO TODAY'S 20-YEAR-OLDS LOOK UP TO?

Olga Havlová, one-time first lady of the Czech Republic, would have been 85 years old last year. While many people know her name, the majority mainly remember her as the wife of President Václav Havel. Few are capable of appreciating her as a personality who devoted her entire life to creating the conditions for the fomentation of civic society. As the founder of the Committee of Good Will she always fought for the rights of the most vulnerable and by means of the foundation helped the disabled, the abandoned and the socially disadvantaged.

How do today's youth view her legacy? What does Olga Havlová represent to them? Do today's 20-year-olds have their "own" personalities they look up to? Who are their models? What do they think of non-profit organisations, volunteering and charity and how do they make that known? Do the terms that Olga Havlová and Václav Havel identified with – truth and love, compassion and humility – have the same meanings for them? And what do those who lived through the "Havel years" as adults make of the development of society and today's youth?

Speakers: Petruška Šustrová, writer and journalist, Petr Fischer, journalist, Tereza Laubeova, graduate of Prague's Metropolitan University, Jakub Čech, activist and student at a business academy in Prostějov, and Lenka Štěpánová, chairwoman of the Czech High School Students Union.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Committee of Good Will – Olga Havlová Foundation.

2 October

OLGA

The documentary film *Olga* (2014, 84 min., Czech with English titles) by the well-known Czech director Miroslav Janek is a portrait of Olga Havlová, one of the most noteworthy Czech



Ágnes Heller (Discussion with participants in 1968 protests).



Mustafa Dzhemilev (Discussion with participants in 1968 protests).

women of the 20th century. The police couldn't break her and the Castle didn't change her. Though she came from a working class background, she became an essential element of the Czech cultural and intellectual world in the 1950s and 1960s, offering critical assessments of her husband's work and supporting him in the toughest periods following the creation of Charter 77. The film documents Olga's world and time as well as her highly original outlook.

The screening took place within the COURAGE-PAREVO international festival of documentary film, a culmination of the three year research project COURAGE: Cultural Opposition – Understanding the Cultural Legacy of Dissent in the Former Socialist Countries

29 November

JOSEF TOPOL: SEASONS OF THE HEART

Sezóny Srdce (Collage In Adagio) (Seasons of the Heart (Collage in Adagio)) is a book of interviews with Josef Topol conducted by Karel Hviždala between 2003 and 2005. It is supplemented by correspondence between the author's grandparents and parents as well as his own letters, diary entries, period documents and over 100 unique photographs.

The book was introduced by Marie Tomášová, while Topol's oeuvre was discussed by Milan Uhde and Lenka Jungmannová. Jan Šulc hosted the evening.

Eminent international guests

22 FEBRUARY

1968–2018, PARIS – PRAGUE: INSURRECTIONARY EUROPE

The French historian Annette Wieviorka spoke as part of a series of debates focused on the legacy of the year 1968 in the present-day context. Historians don't choose their area of research by accident. This also applies to this French historian and specialist on the Shoah and the history of the Jews in the 20th century who, with admirable energy, studies the history of the genocide during WWII that devastated her entire family. As she explained in one interview, her enthusiasm for and interest in history was born in 1968. *"Because only history can allow us to comprehend the world and gives us the possibility of changing it."*

The debate with Annette Wieviorka, who works at the Association Primo Levi and teaches at the university Paris-Nanterre, was chaired by Luc Lévy, director of Prague's French Institute.

19 March

THEATRE IN THE GHETTO AND GULAG: ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF HELL

Lecture by the Lithuanian philosopher, anthropologist and artist Gintautas Mažeikis about the world of professional theatres in Solovka (1923–1936) and Vorkuta (1943–1950) Gulag camps in comparison with the theatres in the Vilnius and Warsaw ghettos.

19 March

TRANSFORMATIONS IN CIVIC SOCIETY IN POST-SOVIET LITHUANIA

Historian Egidijus Aleksandravičius delivered a talk on Lithuanian society today and in the recent past.

5 April

OLIVIER GUEZ: THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOSEPH MENGELE

Meeting with the French writer and journalist Olivier Guez, who won the prestigious Prix Renaudot last year for his novel *The Disappearance of Joseph Mengele*, a compelling exploration of the soul and life of the infamous “Angel of Death” following his escape to South America.

The Disappearance of Joseph Mengele came out in Czech in autumn 2018 on the Garamond imprint.

Oliver Guez is not just a novelist but also a well-known journalist and reporter. He came to broader attention in France thanks to his book *The Impossible Return*, focused on the post-war return of Jewish inhabitants to Germany. He is also known for *The Fall of the Wall*, in which he and Jean-Marc Gonin, the current editor-in-chief of the daily *Le Figaro*, recorded the testimonies of actors in the events that led to the collapse of the Berlin Wall. Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Prague’s French Institute.

5 June

DOMINIQUE CARDON: THE NEW BORDERS OF THE INTERNET

The rise of the internet and ever increasing volumes of information raise a number of fundamental questions: How do social networks influence the circulation of information and the formation of opinion? What role did fake news and social media play in the democratic process in the US elections and Brexit? How can we control internet giants of the type of Google, Facebook, Apple and Amazon?

These and other questions were answered by the French internet expert and sociologist Dominique Cardon, director of the



Gratias Agit Prize – The Magnificent Eight from Red Square 1968.



Tatyana Baeva (*The Magnificent Eight*).



Pavel Litvinov (*The Magnificent Eight*).



Viktor Fainberg (*The Magnificent Eight*).

MediaLab at SciencesPo in Paris and the author of numerous academic publications.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Prague's French Institute.

7 June

GRATIAS AGIT AWARD - THE MAGNIFICENT EIGHT FROM RED SQUARE 1968

Litvinov, Baeva, Fainberg

On 25 August 1968, linguist Konstantin Babicky, poet Vadim Delaunay, worker Vladimir Dremlyuga, English Studies expert Viktor Fainberg, poet and translator Natalya Gorbanevskaya, physicist Pavel Litvinov, linguist Larisa Bogoraz and student Tatyana Baeva came together to protest on Moscow's Red Square against the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops led by the Soviet Union. Within a few minutes the demonstrators were set upon and arrested. The Czechoslovak flag was destroyed and their banners confiscated. The detainees were sentenced to jail terms of several years, spells in labour camps or psychiatric clinics or internal exile...

In connection with the presentation of the Gratias Agit award by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs, participants Pavel Litvinov, Tatyana Baeva and Viktor Fainberg accepted invitations to the Václav Havel Library.

A discussion on the distant anniversary as well as current events was helmed by Adam Hradilek (Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes) and the director of the Václav Havel Library, Michael Žantovský.

4 October

PAVAO PAVLIČIĆ: DIXIELAND

Pavao Pavličić is one of the most highly regarded contemporary Croatian writers. His *Dixieland* – which follows the fates of eight members of an occasional band in Vukovar until a tragic finale in 1991 – is the most noteworthy Croatian novel of the 1990s. In terms of its importance it bears comparison to such works as Günter Grass's *The Tin Drum* and *The Lost Steps* by Alej Carpentier.

The author was present for this presentation of the Czech edition of the novel, while it was discussed by the literary critics Julijana Matanović and Jan M. Heller and the translator Jan Doležal.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Runa publishing house and under the auspices of the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia.

18 June

EUROPE BETWEEN XENOPHOBIA AND INTERGATION

Does migration represent a threat or an opportunity for contemporary Europe? Does migration create new cleavages in European societies? Why do we tend to perceive migration solely in a European context and disregard its global dimensions?

These and other issues related to ethnic and religious diversity, migration and transformation were debated from both a historical and contemporary perspective by international experts Stathis Kalyvas (Oxford University), Elmira Muratova (Tavrida National V.I. Vernadsky University/Crimean Federal University), Paul A. Shapiro (US Holocaust Memorial Museum) and Christian Voss (Humboldt University of Berlin).

The event was moderated by historian Kateřina Králová (Institute of International Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University).

8 October

AYELET GUNDAR-GOSHEN: WAKING LIONS

How the State of Israel deals with migration.

The novel *Waking Lions*, with its theme of migration to Israel, has won renown around the world. The book and its subject matter were debated by its Israeli writer Ayelet Gundar-Goshen, Czech Television's Middle East specialist Jakub Szántó and translator Magdalena Křížová. Michael Žantovský was the evening's host.

12 November

ANDRIY LYUBKA: YOUR VIEW, CIO-CIO SAN

Novelist, poet, essayist and translator Andriy Lyubka is one of the most important members of Ukraine's young generation of authors and his book *Saudade* received the Yuriy Shevchyov Award in 2017. His poems have been published in the Czech magazine *Psí víno*. Lyubka's new novel *Your View, Cio-Cio San* is a psychological thriller about life in contemporary Ukraine, where nothing goes unpunished and both happy and cruel events of the past are reflected in the lives of the future generation.

The author introduced his novel and Rostislav Prokopjuk moderated.

23 November

SIMON MAWER: PRAGUE SPRING

Simon Mawer, author of the Times bestseller *The Glass Room*, returned to Czechoslovakia with his novel *Prague Spring* set in the turbulent 1960s. The Prague Spring and the Cold War,



Ayelet Gundar-Goshen: *Waking Lions*.



Simon Mawer: *Prague Spring*



Milada Blekastadová and Jan Patočka.

Dubček's "socialism with a human face", Czechoslovak youth brimming with hope and new ideas. Behind the Iron Curtain nothing seems impossible in this moment. However, the massive cogs of politics are turning in the background, the Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev is putting the pressure on and the Red Army is assembling on the borders...

Guests: Simon Mawer, Kateřina Kadlecová and Lukaš Novák. Petr Vizina was moderator.

28 November

BORIS KHERSONSKY – FAMILY ARCHIVE: VANISHED EASTERN EUROPE

The Ukrainian poet, journalist and doctor Boris Khersnosky, who lives in his birthplace of Odessa, presented the first Czech translation of his novel in verse *Family Archive* at the VHL.

It tells the story of his Slav-Jewish family, which plays out against the backdrop of the 20th century and primarily in the area of Central and Eastern Europe. The book takes us to Odessa, Lvov and Karlovy Vary but also Kolyma, Jerusalem and Brooklyn.

Also taking part in a discussion of the book were its translator Džamila Stehliková and the poet Ludmila Khersnosky, creator of the collages in *Family Archive*.

Discussions

17 January

MILADA BLEKASTAD – LETTERS IN A TIME OF REPRESSION

The correspondence of Milada Blekastad (nee Topičová) with Jan Patočka, Ludvík Vaculík and Julie Nováková.

Milada Blekastad left behind thousands of pages of correspondence with close friends and eminent names in Czech and Norwegian science and culture. Her letters and responses are a record not only of professional and personal relations but also of the age in which they were written.

The Václav Havel Library held this debate on the significance of correspondence in the period of Communist dictatorship in cooperation with the Institute of Philosophy at the Czech Academy of Sciences and the Elg association.

Speakers: Věra Schifferová (Czech Academy of Sciences), Vladimír Urbánek (Czech Academy of Sciences) and Jan and Ondřej Vaculík.

The evening also saw the launch of the travelling exhibition *Invisible Bridge: Milada Blekastad 1917–2003*.

29 January

WHY AND HOW TO SPEAK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHIATRIC ILLNESSES?

In the Czech Republic depression and bipolar disorders affect more people than diabetes and asthma, and anxiety disorders are twice as common again (almost 1.5 million people). According to the World Health Organisation, psychiatric illnesses accounts for 40 percent of all illnesses and approximately every fourth person will experience some form of mental illness in the course of their life. However, we speak about mental health far less than about physical wellbeing.

The first of a series of three evenings was dedicated to why and how a group of young neuroscientists, psychologists and psychiatric patients are tackling the problem of insufficient awareness, stigmatisation and neglected prevention in the field of mental health and illness in the Czech Republic. The discussion touched on the Nevypušť duši (Don't Let the Spirit Go) project, as well as inspirational campaigns in other states. On why it is necessary to focus on the language and vocabulary that we employ when we speak about psychiatric health and illness and how the use of personal stories can best spread facts and bust myths about mental health and illness.

The series was created by the non-profit Nevypušť duši, which is run by a team of young psychologists, neuroscientists and students of those disciplines. It also comprises psychiatric patients and people with experience of psychiatric illness at a young age. Nevypušť duši circulates information, busts myths and informs the Czech Republic about mental health.

Marie Salomonová and Zuzana Pacholíkova took part in the discussion.

6 February

RELIGION AND VIOLENCE – THE CONFLICTS OF NEW RELIGIONS

New religious movements are movements of protest. They frequently stem from dissatisfaction with a dominant social code, but they can also express disagreement with the existing ideology of an established religion. And conflicts involving new religions are not just a matter of the past, according to Zdeněk Vojtíšek's monograph *Nová náboženství a násilí* (*New Religions and Violence*).

One of the many forms of such violence, the persecution of religions in Iran and China, were discussed by the author, Professor Hana Sodeyfi, an expert on the Bahá'í faith, and Milan Kajínek, a member of the Falun Gong community.



Don't Let the Spirit Go: A story of anxiety



Jiří Padevět and Petr Koura: Student February 1948.



The Ferdinand Peroutka Prize: investigative journalism under threat?

The debate was chaired by Religious Studies specialist Professor Pavel Hošek. Organised by the VHL in cooperation with the Karolinum publishing house.

27 February **STUDENT FEBRUARY 1948**

The Czechoslovak Communists' rise to power and subsequent destruction of the state played out from at least 1945. February 1948 saw Communist efforts to seize power reach a climax, leading to not just a denial of all of the principles on which Czechoslovakia stood during the First Republic but also the complete disintegration of society. One immediate response to the Communist repression was a student march in February 1948.

This subject was explored by the writer and publisher Jiří Padevět and the historian and political scientist Petr Koura.

28 February **DON'T LET THE SPIRIT GO: A STORY OF ANXIETY**

Up to 1.45 million people in the Czech Republic suffer from some form of anxiety disorder. This entails not only specific phobias but also panic disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder and perhaps social phobia. The second in a series of three evenings focused on telling the stories of two young people who have encountered mental illness in their lives. The discussion focused on just anxiety disorders.

The evening began with a short introduction to everything that can come under the title anxiety disorder, the concrete forms that the illness can take, how it limits sufferers, how it influences their lives and what help is available to people with such difficulties. Visitors also learned how it is to speak openly about one's illness at lectures or for instance workshops at secondary schools.

Speakers: Klara Lampová and Martin Javůrka. Organised by the VHL in cooperation with the organisation Nevypušt duši (Don't Let the Spirit Go)

1 March **BETWEEN TWO KIMS**

Nina Špitálníková graduated in Korean Studies and twice made it into the world's most hardline dictatorship today. She wrote a book about her experiences, welcome and otherwise, that explores not only how she studied at a North Korean university and her arrest over a forbidden metro ride but above all the everyday

lives of the local people. What else did Nina Špitálníková experience, how did her stay there change her approach to life, what does business look like under communism and why will she never go back to the DPRK? The discussion was chaired by journalist and Czech Television editor Michala Komrsková.

5 March

WHY DIDN'T JIŘÍ DRAHOŠ WIN?

An analytical look at the campaign between the first and second rounds of the presidential elections, not through the eyes of politicians or candidates but experts in the fields of society, campaigning and communication. Taking part in the discussion were Eliška Vyhnančková, a social media expert; Lubomír Kopeček, a political scientist at Brno's Masaryk University; sociologist Daniel Prokop, an analyst at the Median agency; and František Vrabec, director of the company Semantic, which monitors the media and its impact.

The debate was chaired by Jaroslav Poláček, who in the last 15 years has been actively focused on election campaigning and is an analyst at the TOPAZ think tank.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with TOPAZ.

6 March

THE FERDINAND PEROUTKA PRIZE: INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM UNDER THREAT?

Andrej Babiš's purchase of the company Mafra, the subsequent exodus of journalists to smaller, mainly print media outlets, pressure on public service media over their investigative programmes, be they Reportéry ČT or 168 hodin and the recent case of Janek Kroupa at Czech Radio – all of this has in recent times highlighted the importance of investigative journalism in contemporary Czech society. These issues were the focus of a discussion organised every year following the presentation of the Ferdinand Peroutka Prize by the Václav Havel Library and the Ferdinand Peroutka Society, which bestows the award.

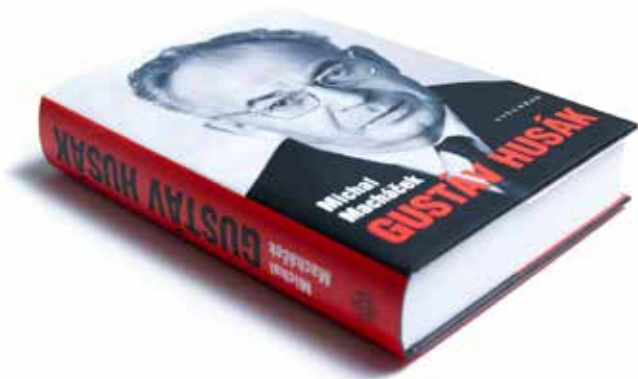
Speakers included the fresh recipient of the prize Jana Klímová, an investigative journalist with Czech Radio, and the journalists Marek Wollner and Jiří Kubík. The evening was hosted by Jan Pokorný.

12 March

PETR NUTIL: MEDIA, LIES AND THE ACCELERATED BRAIN – A GUIDE TO THE POST- TRUTH WORLD

The author of the book *Média, lži a příliš rychlý mozek* (*Media, Lies and the Accelerated Brain*), Petr Nutil, is an independent





journalist and cofounder of the journalism website Manipulátoři.cz, which is focused on media manipulation, propaganda and debunking hoaxes. Alongside unmasking fake news, in the text the author also explores the psychological phenomena that suppress reason and fan evil and irrationality.

The debate on the “post-truth world” was chaired by Leoš Kyša, a journalist and deputy chairman of the Czech Club of Sceptics Sisyfos. Guests included Michael Žantovský, director of the Václav Havel Library, Karel Strachota, founder and director of People in Need’s One World in Schools educational programme, Josef Džubák, founder of the website Hoax.cz, Ondřej Fér from the news site Info.cz and Kateřina Kadlecová from the weekly Reflex. Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation the Grada publishing house.

20 March

A DAY FOR CUBA – DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS

Discussion evening held in commemoration of the events of 18 March 2003, when 75 leading dissidents were arrested in Cuba and later sentenced to lengthy prison terms. They were released prematurely in 2010 and most have been pressured by the government into going into exile. Themes: What is the situation in Cuba today? To what degree is direct support for the opposition, which is trying to undermine the credibility and solidity of the authoritarian regime from the inside, having an effect? Isn’t it better to negotiate with totalitarian leaders and put political and economic pressure on them to ultimately bring about change themselves? And what do ordinary Cubans who just “want to live and get by” and have turned their backs on politics make of human rights?

Debate participants: Tařana Fischerová (Helsinki Committee), Martin Balcar (Amnesty International) and Peter Moree (Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren).

23 March

CEW 21 –SILENT WOMEN

In the 19th century we were allowed to gather.

In the 20th century we received the right to education, vote and short skirts.

In the 21st century we will co-create.

The female voice is lacking in the public sphere but we are also interested in what the quality of the civic space of which we are part. We don’t want to needlessly fret over the futures of our children and grandchildren. The world is accelerating and we need to adapt to the changes and with us our families and

female friends. We wish to create a space where we too can hold a discussion among ourselves and with the world around us. We are frequently silent but that doesn't mean we have no opinion. Now you will hear it. After all, we are all 21st century women and mothers.

A panel discussion with the think tank CEW 21, the Central European Women's think tank for the 21st century.

Speakers: Magda Vášáryová, Alexandra Alvar, Danuše Nerudová and Pavlína Hájková. Chaired by Jana Spekhorstová.

27 March

DON'T LET THE SPIRIT GO: SPIRITUAL HEALTH SCIENCE

The third evening helmed by the association Nevypust' duši (Don't Let the Spirit Go) was focused on everyday mental health care. Visitors were told about the importance of looking after one's mental health. The organisers outlined a few practical tips on achieving this and shared a few words on relaxation techniques and burnout syndrome, or rather how to overcome it with functioning mental hygiene. In conclusion they looked at opportunities for specialised care in the case of mental problems.

Speakers: Marie Salomonová and Zuzana Pacholíkova.

3 April

MICHAL MACHÁČEK: HUSÁK

The name Gustáv Husák (1913–1991) is most closely associated with the period of so-called normalisation in the 1970s and 1980s, when a generation of "Husák's children" were born. A new biography of Husák by Michal Macháček traces the long career of the final president of Communist Czechoslovakia from the very beginnings, exploring Husák's origins and family background, youth, studies and enrolment in the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, his activities in the war, the Slovak National Uprising and post-war politics, his conviction in a trial of Slovak "bourgeois nationalists", his successful efforts at rehabilitation and his gradual return to the echelons of power. The book also delivers new findings about Husák's personal life. In Macháček's book this symbol of torpor and stagnation comes across as a more multi-layered personality than the common perception.

The book is based on hitherto unknown sources in the Czech, Slovak and Russian archives and materials from the private archive of Husák's family. It is the first comprehensive Husák monograph produced in Czech or international historiography. Historian Kristina Andělová chaired a discussion with author Michal Macháček, accompanied by a presentation of photographs and film footage. Jáchym Topol read excerpts from the book.



China, Christians, exodus and Czech society



Martin Tichý and Aleš Palán: Death Without Justice/Ratajský Forest.

3 May

CHINA, CHRISTIANS, EXODUS AND CZECH SOCIETY

This discussion set out to place the modern phenomenon of the search for a new homeland and flight for religious reasons from one's original homeland within the framework of contemporary Czech society. People whose own lives have been deeply impacted by this subject also agreed to take part on condition of anonymity.

Guests: Jan Fingerland (journalist and Czech Radio commentator), Zbigniew Czendlik (Roman Catholic priest), Mikuláš Vymětal (Evangelical pastor), Jan Jandourek (sociologist, journalist and writer), Ivan Štampach (Religious Studies expert, theologian and academic) and Aleš Weiss (Prague Jewish Community). Sinologist Martin Kříž chaired the talk.

15 May

REFERENDA – A CHALLENGE FOR DEMOCRACY OR A BACKWARDS STEP?

Are referenda a guarantee of better democracy? Do they enable citizens to take part in the decision-making process? Or are they a once tried, now abandoned path?

The debate brought together politicians and experts on the subject. Among them was Tomáš Lebeda, a political scientist and expert on political systems, while a legal perspective was provided by Jan Kysela, a constitutional lawyer, expert on government and political scientist. However, it is politicians who will decide on referenda, which is why our debate also featured TOP 09 deputy chairman Marek Ženíšek, a lecturer in political scientist at the University of West Bohemia in Plzeň, and Czech Pirate Party member Vojtěch Píkal, a deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies.

The discussion was chaired by Jaroslav Poláček, who for the last 15 years has been focused on electoral campaigns and works as an analyst with the TOPAZ think tank.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with TOPAZ.

16 May

OUT OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME: HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN YOU LEFT HOME?

Around a thousand young people leave children's homes every year at the age of 18, or, if they study, at 26. How difficult for them is this phase of their lives? What challenges and pitfalls do they encounter on that path? Are they prepared enough for such a step? Is there a support system? Or aid organisations?

How does it actually work? How does it differ from the situation when you left home?

These questions and more were discussed by Radek Laci from Vteřiny poté; Klára Chábová from the Mimo domov association; youth guardian Lukáš Bachura; children's home director Ondřej Výborný and Zdenka Marková from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport. Marie Froulíková chaired the debate.

22 May

THE KILLING OF A COMMUNIST FUNCTIONARY

Three years ago Aleš Palán's novel Ratajský les (Ratajský Forest) drew attention and was nominated for the Magnesia Litera award. Historian Martin Tichý also took on the 1952 case, considering whether the violent death of unknown Communist Party functionary Anna Kvašová presents a hint of the anti-communist resistance or raises questions related to the Mašíns' story. His book Smrt bez spravedlnosti (Death Without Justice) also looks at how it is possible the trial of the so-called group Landstoff et al – i.e., with the "murderers" of Kvašová – became a textbook example of "class justice" that should have been the firmly dealt with in the past. And why we look back at that fact forced collectivisation led to countless human tragedies and the repression involved became a legitimate source of opposition to the Communist regime.

Martin Tichý and Aleš Palán took part in the debate.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

28 May

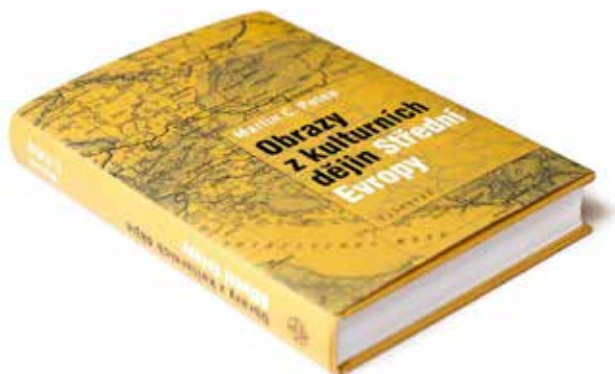
THE URBAN LIBERAL'S DILEMMA: LAST ONE TURNS OUT THE LIGHT?

The triumvirate of democratic centrist parties the Christian Democrats, the Mayors and Independents and TOP 09 did not enter last year's elections in good shape and their support fell further in the new Chamber of Deputies. By contrast, the victorious ANO won more voters. Do these developments spell the end of a pro-European political centre in the Czech Republic? This debate with deputy leaders of TOP 09, the Mayors and Independents and the Christian Democrats featured Vit Rakušan, Marek Ženíšek and Jan Bartošek and was moderated by Andrea Procházková.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Názorování.



Mothers in the ring: family or profession?



20 June

MOTHERS IN THE RING: FAMILY OR PROFESSION?

Is there a compromise between work and looking after children? For many women, parental leave means abandoning the labour market for a lengthy period. Many lose touch with their field. Their level of qualification declines, as does their chance of full reintegration, a situation that is in part due to the inflexibility of the Czech labour market. Some women therefore put motherhood off, decide to have fewer children or don't have any at all. There are models that claim to know how to enable the woman or both parents to decide themselves how to combine professional and parental needs and ideas, depending on what is possible for individual families. What form do those models take, how successful have they been abroad, what are their drawbacks, are they beneficial to parents alone or also to children, and what are their chances of working in the Czech environment? These issues were the focus of our discussion about combining family and professional life.

Guests: MP Markéta Pekarová Adamová, Jana Spekhorstová of the Czech branch of the European Union of Women, Marie Ujezdská, director of the National Centre for the Family, economist Filip Pertold of the think tank IDEA at CERGE-EI.

The debate was helmed by Jaroslav Poláček, an analyst with the TOPAZ think tank.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with TOPAZ.

3 September

THE NEEDS OF ENDANGERED CHILDREN

This discussion focused on the current status of endangered children in the Czech Republic in the context of ongoing changes in social and family policy. It also explored the fulfilment of the Czech Republic's international legal commitments as regards the protection of human rights. The invited guests included experts committed to high standards and dignified conditions in care for endangered children, including subsequent support during adolescence and early adulthood.

The debate outlined the situation at present, including the recommendations that the Czech Republic regularly receives in this area from international human rights organisations (Council of Europe, United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, European Court of Human Rights). Another theme was the introduction of functioning, high-quality services that not only help individual children but are also part of systematic changes that should contribute to the protection of endangered children and their families in the future.

Speakers: Marie Oktábcová (Nadace J&T), Jana Luhanová (Routa), Alexandra Tichánková (Děti patří domů), Klara Chábová (Mimo domov), Tereza Jandová (Dětský domov Korkyně), Radek Laci (Vteřina pote) and Terezie Pemová (NIDAR).

Tibor A. Brečka moderated.

Organised by the National Institute for Children and the Family, the 1st Faculty of Medicine, Charles University and the Václav Havel Library in connection with the 22nd world congress of ISPCAN (the International Society for Prevention Child Abuse and Neglect).

10 September

MARTIN C. PUTNA AND RADKO MOKRYK – WHAT IS CENTRAL EUROPE?

The states that more than a quarter-century ago emerged from the so-called “socialist camp” are today searching for their own identities. What is Central Europe? What kind of future awaits Poland and Hungary? What events on Europe’s eastern borders influence goings-on on the continent? And where does Czechia actually belong?

The literary historian and professor Martin C. Putna, who this year published *Obrazy z kulturních dějin Střední Evropy* (*Pictures from the Cultural History of Central Europe*) via the Vyšehrad imprint and has travelled around the countries of the former Hapsburg empire, from Vienna to Galicia and the Balkans, discussed Central and Eastern Europe.

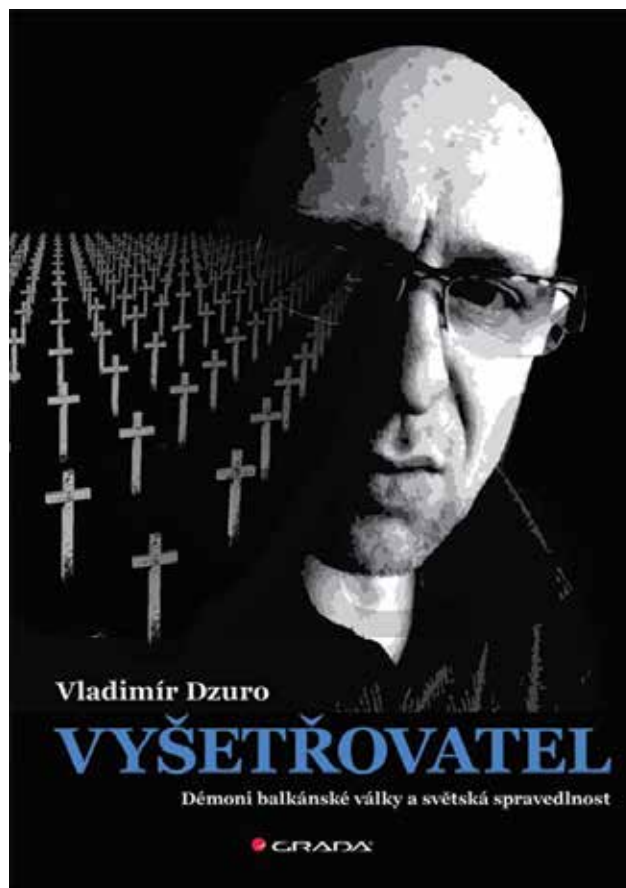
The debate was accompanied by a presentation of the latest issue of the magazine NaVýchod.

Radko Mokryk of the Department of Eastern European Studies at Charles University’s Faculty of Arts, and an editor at NaVýchod, spoke with Martin C. Putna.

14 September

CONTEMPORARY VIETNAM AND MOTHER MUSHROOM

In recent years the political situation in Vietnam has become more difficult. Almost 200 activists are in prison and free journalism and engaged literature are only possible underground. The evening included the pre-premiere of the film *When Mother’s Away*, about the dissident and blogger *Mother Mushroom*. She is one of 200 Vietnamese prisoners of conscience and in 2016 was sentenced to 10 years in prison. Maker Clay Pham chiefly focused on the fate of the political prisoner’s family in what is an exceptional documentary in the Vietnamese context. On 12 June 2018 a cyber security law was passed by the Vietnamese National Assembly and will enter force on 1 January



Vladimír Dzuro: *The civil war in the Balkans and war crimes.*



The Autumn Symphony of the Plastic People.

2019. Under the legislation companies operating social networks in Vietnam will be required to remove undesirable content within 24 hours of being asked to do by the authorities. It was in this context that the unique documentary *When Mother's Away* was screened in Bangkok on 28 June 2018 for the first and last time. A second screening was cancelled by the Thai authorities after the Vietnamese authorities expressed indignation. The evening was moderated by Kateřina Procházková. Vietnam Studies expert Ondřej Slowik and Vãn Lang association member Mai Nguyenová took part.

17 September

VLADIMÍR DZURO: THE CIVIL WAR IN THE BALKANS AND WAR CRIMES

Vladimír Dzuro was the first, and for a long time only, Czech who investigated war crimes in the Balkans for the office of the chief prosecutor at the International Tribunal in the Hague. Dzuro uncovered mass graves and questioned and arrested those responsible for suffering and genocide. He took part in the first arrest of a war criminal since the Nuremberg trials. He got to the bottom of a massacre at the Ovčara farm near Vukovar. As an investigator he was involved in many such cases. The one-time Prague detective spent over nine years as part of a team tasked with investigating war crimes committed by Serbs in Croatia and Western Bosnia. He now heads the Office of Internal Affairs at the United Nations in New York. He has laid down his testimony in his new book, entitled *Vyšetřovatel – Démoni balkánské války a světská spravedlnost (Investigator – The Demons of the Balkan War and Worldly Justice)*.

The discussion was chaired by David Štáhlavský (journalist and presenter, head of the Journalism Creative Group at Czech Radio). Guests: Michael Žantovský (director, Václav Havel Library), Anna Richterová (state attorney; in 1999–2008 deputy prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia), Jan Pelikán (historian, Department of South Slavonic and Balkan Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University) and Martin Ježek (commentator on events in the Balkans).

19 September

WHY AREN'T THE SENATE ELECTIONS ABOUT THE SENATE?

What position does the Senate have today, what can we influence and why do elections to the Senate tend to be another version of municipal elections.

We don't like going to the polls for the upper house. Long-term turnout is low despite the fact the elections take place at the

same time as municipal and regional ones. Subjects that pertain to the Senate remain abandoned, deepening the sense that it served no purpose. What is behind this state of affairs? Can it be changed?

Guests: constitutional law expert Jan Kysela, ex-senator Karel Schwarzenberg, Jakub Charvát of Metropolitan University in Prague and Jiří Stodůlka, a former senator and deputy chair of the Constitutional-Legal Committee and former chair of the Senate Committee for the Constitution of the Czech Republic.

The debate was chaired by Jaroslav Poláček, an analyst with the TOPAZ think tank.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with TOPAZ.

24 September

HOW DOES THE CZECH REPUBLIC STAND ON DRUG POLICY?

Is our drug policy high-quality and effective? What challenges or threats does it face? Can a rational political debate on the issue of drugs take place at the legislative level?

The panel focused on the issue of the effectiveness of drug policy in the Czech Republic and its impact on the public, users and experts.

Speakers: Jindřich Vobořil (former anti-drug policy coordinator), Viktor Mravčík (head of the National Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Addiction), Robert Veverka (chairman of Legalizace.cz), Jan Horák (therapist with Renarkorn and representative of the Platform for a Complex Approach to Drug Use and Addiction). Marie Froulíková helmed the discussion.

1 October

THE AUTUMN SYMPHONY OF THE PLASTIC PEOPLE

The book *Podzemní symfonie Plastic People (The Autumn Symphony of the Plastic People)* maps the story of the rock band The Plastic People of the Universe against the backdrop of the political developments of the 1970s and 1980s. It begins with an outline of the group's history in the years 1968–1976 within the framework of the advent of psychedelic rock in Czechoslovakia and the first stirrings of the concept of cultural opposition. It also analyses the context of the politically focused dissent, primarily Charter 77, and the band's long-term ties to Václav Havel. This is followed by a look at the formation of Půlnoci and Domáci kapela, trips to the US, efforts to become legal... until the breakup of the group. The book is a well-informed exploration of the legendary underground band and its



CAFÉ REPUBLIKA



Republic Café: Lost and found post-1918 – the provincial nobility.

time, delivering a great deal that is new while examining well-known facts from hitherto unfamiliar angles.

The book was presented by its authors František "Čuňas" Stárek and Martin Valenta, along with Vratislav Brabenec and Jáchym Topol. Petr Onufer moderated their discussion.

10 October

FESTIVAL OF DEMOCRACY AND VHL DEBATES:

The Festival of Democracy took place as an accompanying programme to the Forum 2000 conference, presenting discussions at the Václav Havel Library on the value of intergenerational relationships in contemporary society and a debate on the position of the media in Central Europe.

11.00–13.00

#IDEMOCRACY: WHAT DO DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM MEAN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

Freedom and democracy – two words that we hear, read and use every day. But what exactly do they mean? We invited secondary school students, young people who will soon become involved in public life as voters, to send us short videos on this theme as part of the #IDemocracy competition. After a screening of the winning video we discussed the place democracy and freedom have in young people's values.

Moderated by Andrea Procházková, a journalist with the weekly Respekt.

Speakers: Václav Kříž, former chairman of Young Citizens, Johanna Nejedlova, co-founder of Konsent.

In cooperation with Forum 2000.

18.00–20.00

THE FREEDOM OF PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA IN CENTRAL EUROPE

The position of public service media organisations in Central Europe is getting worse and worse. Can their freedom and independence be maintained in a milieu of strong authoritarian governments? How can the authorities' temptation to take total control of the public sphere be resisted?

Speakers: Adam Černý, journalist and chairman of the Czech Syndicate of Journalists, Martin Vadas, director of FITES, Daniel Raus, former editor-in-chief of Czech Radio, Vlastimil Venclík, member of the Czech Television Council, and Janek Kroupa, investigative reporter.

In cooperation with Forum 2000 and the organisation Svobodu médiím!

12 October

THE SANDWICH GENERATION: FINDING A BALANCE BETWEEN WORK AND FAMILY LIFE

Up to a quarter of Czechs belong to the so-called sandwich generation, defined as caring simultaneously for both minors and older parents. The vast majority of those concerned are women who also have fulltime jobs. The sandwich generation face a great number of challenges and problems, as taking care of two generations is demanding in emotional, time and financial terms. With couples delaying parenthood and people living longer, it is a subject that needs to be addressed in discussions of family policy, modernisation of the labour market and healthcare.

Speakers: Danuše Nerudová, rector of Mendel University in Brno, Markéta Pekarová Adamová, MP (TOP 09), Walburga Lerchenfeld, politician from Germany's CSU, Doris Schulz, MP from Austria's OVP.



Don't be afraid to go home.

15 October

AFTER THE GREAT WAR: EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE 1918–1923

The creation of a new Europe in 1918–1923 was a complicated and not always peaceful process. The instability and erosion of the newly built order contributed to the outbreak of the Second World War. One hundred years after the end of the Great War, European Network Remembrance and Solidarity, in cooperation with historians from over a dozen countries, prepared an outdoor exhibition that began a European tour in Prague on 15 October. The focus of our debate was the effort to synthesize national memories and the search for a common transnational narrative concerning the difficult beginning of a new Europe.

Guests: Attila Pok (Hungary), Jan Rydel (Poland) and Oldřich Tůma (Czech Republic)

The debate was chaired by the director of the Václav Havel Library, Michael Žantovský.

6 November

REPUBLIC CAFÉ LOST AND FOUND POST-1918: THE PROVINCIAL NOBILITY

The foundation of the Czechoslovak Republic a century ago was accompanied not only by patriotic fervour but also concerns about the future. Minorities, the Catholic Church, the aristocracy and many others were faced with decisions



Republic Café: Lost and found post-1918 – the Ch

regarding to how to proceed. In the uncertainty with which they were treated by the fresh republic they themselves also had to consider how to respond to the new state. Guests: František Kinský and Wolfgang Czernin, representatives of two generations of descendants of noble families, and Zdeněk Hazdra, historian and director of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes. Renata Kalenská was moderator. This debate series marking the centenary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia was prepared for the 2018–2019 season by the Václav Havel Library and the theatre Divadlo Husa na provázku.

14 November

DON'T BE AFRAID TO GO HOME

What happens if we lie to a patient about their state of health? Do serious illnesses have some meaning? And why should we not kill the dying, as proponents of euthanasia wish, but respect their lives until the natural end?

These issues and more are in focus in *Neboj se vrátit domů (Don't be Afraid to Go Home)*, a book of interviews with the founder of the Czech hospice movement, Marie Svatošová. The discussion with her was helmed by writer and journalist Aleš Palán.

It was Svatošová some years ago who put forward the idea of hospice palliative care. It was she who initiated the opening of the first Czech hospice. And it is she who continues to tirelessly cross the country giving lectures on hospice care and serving as an advisor to new hospices. In the book Svatošová also discusses her own family and medicine studies, how Fr. Ladislav Kubíček influenced her and her Trappist fan club.

In many hospices we find the quotation "Our aim is to fill days with life, not life with days." The author of those words, Marie Svatošová, has succeeded in filling her own life with life, as well as meaning and incredible service.

Dr. Marie Svatošová and Aleš Palán answered readers' questions at the VHL.

22 November

THE LOW-CARBON REVOLUTION: THE FUTURE OF GREEN ENERGY

The low-carbon economy is one element of energy policy and therefore also sustainable energy policy. It comes in response to climate change and will aid the long-term maintenance of quality of life for us and future generations. It encompasses sustainable transport and mobility and intelligent distribution, storage and energy transfer systems. The low-carbon economy

is cost-saving and socially inclusive. It requires society-wide vision, cooperation with industry, investment in science and research and the involvement of society, citizens, industry, research, politics and the public administration. The shape of the debate in the Czech Republic, the areas Czechs are strong or weak in and what lessons they can draw from abroad were the subject of a discussion on the benefits of the low-carbon economy.

Guests: Luděk Niedermayer, MEP; Martin Hausenblas, creator of the Liftago project, entrepreneur and philanthropist; Bedřich Moldan, former minister of the environment; and Christina Bache, researcher at the Martens Centre in Brussels and Eva Palacková.

Chaired by Lucie Tungul, political scientist and analyst at the TOPAZ think tank.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with TOPAZ.

3 December

WHEN THE WAR COMES: WHY DO CZECH NATIONALISTS LOVE RUSSIA?

Screening of the documentary *When the War Comes* by Jan Gebert (CR, Croatia, 76 min., 2018) followed by a debate involving journalist Josef Pazderka, photographer Stanislav Krupař and Gebert. Journalist Ivana Svobodová (*Respekt* weekly) moderated the evening.

The debate was intended to highlight the similarity in the worldviews of Central European nationalists and the regimes that inspire them – Novorossiya and Russia. Are organisations such as the Slovak Recruits similar to paramilitary units in Donbas? What is the appeal of Putin’s model of government to Central European nationalists? Does Russia provide ideological or even material support to Central European nationalists?

When the War Comes: At first glance, Petr’s life resembles that of a regular European teenager. He lives with his parents, has a girlfriend and has won a place at university. But his real life is elsewhere – at the head of the militia group Slovak Recruits, who include 200 young people and have branches throughout Slovakia. In mountain forests they are subjected to strict rules and punishments more reminiscent of playing at dictatorship than military training. The militia’s leader believes his model of organisation has a future. He is prepared to set aside his uniform one day and share his vision with the entire society – by becoming a major politician.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with PINK, BontonFilm and KineDok.



The story of Neratov: From ruined church to brewery.



RESPEKT



President wanted.

10 December

REPUBLIC CAFÉ

LOST AND FOUND POST-1918: THE CHURCH

The foundation of the Czechoslovak Republic a century ago was accompanied not only by patriotic fervour but also concerns about the future. Minorities, the Catholic Church, the aristocracy and many others were faced with decisions regarding to how to proceed. In the uncertainty with which they were treated by the fresh republic they themselves also had to consider how to respond to the new state.

Guests: Tomáš Halík, Roman Catholic priest and theologian, Zdeněk Susa, Evangelical pastor, doctor and pilgrim, and Jaroslav Šebek, historian, Institute of History, Czech Academy of Sciences. Chaired by Renata Kalenská.

This debate series marking the centenary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia was prepared by the Václav Havel Library and the theatre Divadlo Husa na provázku.

11 December

ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER: THE TESTIMONY OF A REDISCOVERED DIARY

Nine-thousand and 88 kilometres. That's the length of the world's longest railway, the Trans-Siberian Mainline. At the close of WWI Czechoslovak legionnaires took control of this legendary railroad. Exactly a century later, Ina Píšová, the granddaughter of one of them – Jan Kouba – set off in his footsteps, his diary in hand. Píšová wrote the book *Transsibiřská odysea* (*Trans-Siberian Odyssey*) about her journey and discussed it and more with two Czech Radio editors who have also travelled the Trans-Siberian Mainline, Ivan Studený and David Štáhlavský; the latter moderated the evening.

13 December

THE STORY OF NERATOV: FROM RUINED CHURCH TO BREWERY

An evacuated, literally depopulated village, a church in ruins with trees growing in it. So begins the story of Neratov as it was first experienced by Josef Suchár, a secretly ordained priest, in his youth. He reached out to two families, who settled permanently in the Orlické Mountains. With other friends they founded a civic association, surrounded themselves with the needy and disabled – and built a new village. The story of a vision fulfilled and today the biggest employer of disabled people in the region.

Taking part in the discussion were priest Mons. Josef Suchár, special elementary school director Broňa Havlíková and the manager of the Neratov Association, Antonín Někveda. The

lyricist, writer and cultural anthropologist Michal Horáček introduced the event and Veronika Sedláčková moderated. The event culminated with the launch of the book *Zázrak v Neratově – Josef Suchár v rozhovoru s Tomášem Kutilem* (*The Neratov Miracle – Josef Suchár in Conversation with Tomáš Kutil*), with the involvement of representatives of publishers Karmelitánské nakladatelství.

Organised by the Committee of Good Will – Olga Havlová Foundation in cooperation with the Václav Havel Library.

Debates with Respekt

Debates on topical social and political issues organised in cooperation with the weekly Respekt and chaired by Silvie Lauder, Andrea Procházková and Ondřej Kundra.

9 January

PRESIDENT WANTED

What will decide the presidential election? And is Czech society really divided into two irreconcilable camps by the election? This debate on the future president against the backdrop of historical experiences was helmed by Ondřej Kundra.

Speakers: Jana Hamanová, sociologist (research company SC&C), Jan Kysela, constitutional lawyer, and Lubomír Kopeček, political scientist and author of the book *Miloš Zeman – Příběh talentovaného pragmatika* (*Miloš Zeman – The Story of a Talented Pragmatician*).

13 February

WHAT NEXT FOR PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA?

The presidential debate on Czech Television showed clearly that we need a strong and independent public service media. However, it is just Czech Television and Czech Radio that are today under enormous pressure. What form does that pressure take? And will the broadcasters withstand it?

A discussion on those questions was helmed by Silvie Lauder. Guests: Nora Fridrichová (Czech Television), Filip Rožanek (editor-in-chief of magazine *Marketing & Media*), Adam Černý (chairman of the Czech Syndicate of Journalists) and Michael Rozsypal (Czech Radio Plus presenter) Český rozhlas Plus)

13 March

THE EXECUTION OF JÁN KUCIAK

Slovakia was rocked by the murder of investigative journalists Ján Kuciak and his fiancé. Society is both collapsing and



The young Czechs changing society more than politicians.



There has to be fun, even if everyone's offended.



Should we remain in Afghanistan?



Russians in Prague.

awakening. What consequences could the tragic event have? These and other questions were discussed by Lukaš Fila, head of publishers N Press, journalist Luboš Palata (MF Dnes), who worked at the Slovak daily Pravda for many years, and Ivana Svobodová of Respekt, who observed the situation in Slovakia. The debate was chaired by Ondřej Kundra.

10 April

“IT JUST GUSHED OUT FROM THE HEART OF THE NATION.”

WHAT DO CZECHS SAY ABOUT THEIR ANTHEM AND SHOULD IT BE CHANGED?

These days everybody would like to “spark a debate”. The Czech Olympic Committee and composer Miloš Bok genuinely achieved it when they presented alternative versions of the Czech national anthem. Though few liked it, it did bring about a valuable discussion on the message of Škroup and Tyl’s song *Where is My Home*.

Guests: Miloš Bok, composer and author of new versions of the anthem; Ivan Klánský, dean of the Faculty of Music at the Academy of Performing Arts; Jarmila Gabrielová, music historian, Faculty of Arts, Charles University; Petr Fischer, editor-in-chief Czech Radio Vltava; and Radek Baborák, horn player and conductor.

The debate was chaired by Silvie Lauder.

9 May

THE YOUNG CZECHS CHANGING SOCIETY MORE THAN POLITICIANS

They are successful in their fields but still feel the need to engage publicly. A debate with young Czechs who are trying to change their country.

Guest: Do Thu Trang, blogger, author of the blog *Asijatka*, Ladislav Zibura, traveller, writer and copywriter, Adam Mišík, singer and actor, and canoeist Vavřinec Hradilek.

The debate was chaired by Ondřej Kundra.

18 June

THERE HAS TO BE FUN, EVEN IF EVERYONE’S OFFENDED

Can we laugh at everything? Or does humour have some limits? Who sets them? Blacker than black humour was discussed by journalist Jindřich Šídlo, stand-up comedian Nikola Džokič, graphic artist Tomáš, film critic Jindřiška Blahová and Adela Elbel, rapper and comedian.

The debate was chaired by Silvie Lauder.

11 September

NUCLEAR POWER IS AT THE CORE

The government is to decide on the biggest every energy contract, the completion of the Dukovany nuclear power station. However nuclear power is not the only issue – the tender will also have an impact on the Czech Republic’s geo-political orientation. Which direction will the country take in the coming years?

Speakers: Dana Drábová, head of the State Office for Nuclear Safety; Jan Mládek, former industry and trade minister (Social Democrats); Ivan Gabal, politician, candidate for the Senate for the Greens; Václav Bartuška, special envoy of the Czech Republic for energy security.

The debate was chaired by Ondřej Kundra.

16 October

A CENTURY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

We are celebrating a century of independence and have the opportunity not only to immerse ourselves in history but also reflect on the present. Have any of the ideals on which the independent state was founded survived? T. G. Masaryk said “humanity is the Czech programme” – does this still apply?

Guests: writer and publisher Jiří Padevět, economist Filip Matějka and historian and lawyer Jakub Rákosník. The debate was chaired by Silvie Lauder.

13 November

SHOULD WE REMAIN IN AFGHANISTAN

Should we remain in Afghanistan? What sense does it make? And hasn’t the time come for a turnaround?

A debate on Western allies, heroism and the Czech Army’s international missions in general, as well as about how much the Army can get involved in such debates.

Guests: Petr Pavel, Ivo Zelinka and František Šulc.

The debate was chaired by Ondřej Kundra.

11 December

UNDEFEATABLE ANDREJ BABIŠ – WHY IS THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS MAKING THE PM STRONGER?

During November the domestic political scene went through an unexpected political crisis. The Babiš cabinet’s problems were started by a report on Seznam TV that reignited a debate on an investigation into suspected subsidy fraud in the famous Stork’s Nest resort, which is inextricably linked to the PM in



NaVýchod: The Conflict in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus



Ivana Ryčlová: *They chose freedom.*

the eyes of the public. However, opinion polls suggest that support for ANO and Andrej Babiš is rising because of the political crisis, with the Social Democrats paying a higher price within the minority government for the tempestuous situation. What is going on in the minds of Czech voters? And why is the opposition still unable to compete with the phenomenon of ANO?

Guests: Martin Kratochvíl, sociologist MEDIAN agency, Alžběta Králová, marketing consultant from the Institute of Political Marketing, and Lukaš Jelínek, political scientist and expert on the Social Democrats at the Masaryk Democratic Academy.

The debate was chaired by Andrea Procházková.

RUSSIA, UKRAINE AND BELARUS

30 January

RUSSIANS IN PRAGUE

On “Russian traces” in the Czech Republic in the past and nowadays.

Interwar Czechoslovakia was an important centre for the Russian émigré community, whose number included important scholars, literati and intellectuals. While Czechs celebrated the arrival of the Red Army in May 1945, for Russian (Ukrainian and Belarusian) exiles, who had in many cases become Czechoslovak citizens, the end of WWII spelled disaster: death, imprisonment, the Gulag. The situation was all the more painful given that speaking about their fates was barred because recalling the non-Communist “Russia outside Russia” had no place in the Soviet-Russian imperial narrative. Who were these Russians? How was Czech-Russian coexistence at that time? How does today’s Russia view its past? And what kind of Russians (East Europeans) live in Prague and the Czech Republic today? Are they enriching to us? Or are they a challenge or threat?

The spark for the debate was the book *Rusové v Praze. Ruští intelektuálové v meziválečném Československu* (*Russians in Prague: Russian Intellectuals in Interwar Czechoslovakia*), which was published in 2017 by Vydavatelství FF UK. Taking part in the discussion of the transformations in the Russian presence in Prague and the Czech Republic were Alexej Kelin, a member of the Czech government’s Council for National Minorities, journalist Ondřej Soukup and Slavic Studies specialist Mychajlo Fesenko.

Historian and philosopher Petr Hlaváček moderated the debate.

26 March

BIRTH OF THE STATE: TWO LONGED-FOR REPUBLICS – BPR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Both republics were created a century ago, in 1918, from the same historical impulses. Why did they meet different fates? What do we know about the meetings between President Masaryk and PM Lutskevich? How did two BPR presidents find living in Prague?

The Belarusian People's Republic was declared in Minsk on 25 March 1918, a few months before Czechoslovakia. The new-born state managed to issue passports, began setting up military divisions and sought diplomatic recognition, including from Czechoslovakia. However, all those plans and hopes were soon crushed by the rise of the Bolsheviks.

The historical context was discussed by Michal Plavec and Daniela Kolenovská, co-authors of the book *Běloruská emigrace v meziválečném Československu (The Belarusian Émigré Community in Interwar Czechoslovakia)*, and Ivonka Survilla, chairwoman of the exile Rada of the Belarusian People's Republic in Canada.

The debate in Czech and English was chaired by journalist Alena Kovářová Tichanovičová.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Belarusian association Skaryna.

23 April

NAVÝCHOD MAGAZINE: THE CONFLICT IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE CAUCASUS

For three years the revived NaVýchod magazine has been focused on arts and political events to the east of the Czech Republic, a region that in recent years has seen ethnic and military conflicts: Russian aggression in Ukraine, the annexation of Crimea, the "freezing" of Transnistria, unceasing tensions in Armenian-Azerbaijani relations and the wars in Nagorno-Karabakh, Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

The presentation of the magazine was accompanied by a discussion of these unstable territories featuring Petra Procházková, who has long been focused on the region as a journalist and eye witness, providing reports on the conflicts in Donbas, Ossetia, Abkhazia, Georgia, Nagorno-Karabakh and Afghanistan.

Chaired by Radko Mokryk from the Institute of East European Studies at Charles University's Faculty of Arts and editor of the magazine NaVýchod.

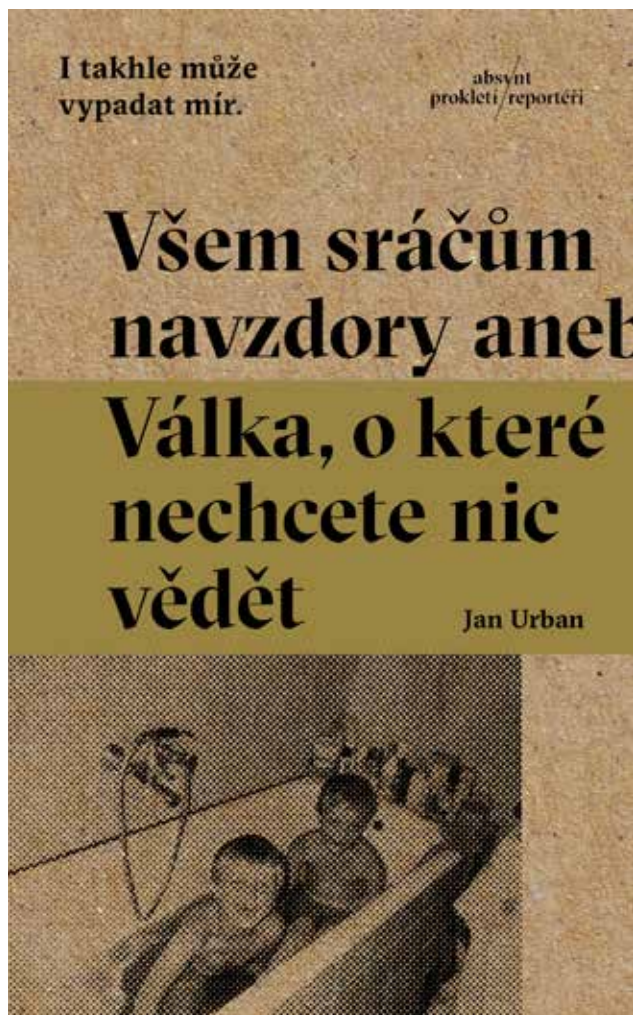
4 June

ELMIRA LYAPINA – THE TATARS IN RUSSIA

Proclaimed human rights and the actual situation of Turkic minorities in Russia and the right to use Tatar as a mother tongue, as well as the history of the Crimean Tatars and how they live



Ilona Ferková: *De mek jekh, L'ida!* / *Same again, Lída!*



today, were discussed by Elmira Lyapina, chairwoman of KITAP, a Tatar and Turkic association in Prague.

Server Abkerimov's work served as a visual accompaniment, illustrating the lives of the Crimean Tatars.

22 October

FROM HOPEFUL TO HOPELESS, DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN THE CAUCASUS

A panel discussion on the situation in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia featuring the speakers Mikayel Zolyan (Armenia), Tinatin Khidasheli (Georgia) and Arzu Geybulla (Azerbaijan).

Co-organised by the Václav Havel Library and the Prague Civil Society Centre.

12 November

IVANA RYČLOVÁ: THEY CHOSE FREEDOM

In her book *Zvolili svobodu (They Chose Freedom)*, literary historian Ivana Ryčlová mapped the fates of the shapers of Russian 20th century culture who expressed disagreement with the Soviet-Orwellian reality in which they were living, including Shalamov, Solzhenitsyn, Galich, Sinyavsky, Ratushinskaya and many others. The author outlined how their opposition to the occupation of Czechoslovakia by Soviet forces in 1968 impacted their complicated life stories to varying degrees. Anatoly Marchenko suffered a tragic fate, with his uncompromising positions – including media appearances defending the freedom of Czechoslovakia – meaning he spent the majority of his life in the Gulag, where he died in murky circumstances in the mid-1980s.

Writer Milan Uhde discussed the book, published by the Centre for the Study of Democracy, while Ondřej Černý, director general of the Czech Centres network, chaired a talk with the author.

The Roma

12 June

THE FORCED STERILISATION OF ROMA WOMEN

This discussion centred on an analysis of the policy of forced sterilisation of Roma women in the Czech Republic (previously Czechoslovakia) in the context of eugenics and the social state. Among the invited guests were researchers into the forced sterilisation of Roma women in Communist Czechoslovakia and academics focused on discriminatory practices against Roma women at the Europe-wide level and the current

situation. Another key topic of discussion was compensation for victims, which is why we have invited both representatives of lobby groups and victims themselves.

Speakers: Gwendolyn Albert, Celia Donert, Elena Gorolová and Angéla Kóczé. Jan Grill moderated the event.

Organised by the Prague Forum for Romani Histories at the Institute of Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Scientists, Romani Studies Seminar, Department of Central and Eastern European Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University and the Václav Havel Library.

4 December

ILONA DERKOVÁ: SAME AGAIN, LÍDA!

KHER, a publishing house focused on Roma literature, presented the long-anticipated new novel by Ilona Ferková entitled *De Mek Jekh, Lido! (Same Again, Lída!)*. It is about the eternally luckless Kašťánek, who lives on the streets and tells the Romany regulars stories in exchange for beer at the gaming bar on the square. A tough life can be lit up by stories and even homeless people and gambling addicts have their pride.

Ilona Ferková's guests was artist Martin Zach, while Marek Miko of Bengas provided musical accompaniment. KHER founder Lukáš Houdek spoke on behalf of the publishers and Karolína Rývolová compered the evening.

Evenings with Polish Reporters

A series of debates and readings that began in 2016.

23 January

PAINFULLY CLOSE WAR

Slaughter taking place just a few hundred kilometres from the Czech border. Genocide playing out in the middle of Europe in the 1990s. Can we comprehend the brutal Yugoslav war? Or describe it? The Polish reporter Wojciech Tochman and the Czech journalist Jan Urban attempted to do so in their books of reportage.

The evening was moderated by the translator Lenka Kuhar Daňhelová.

"There have been thousands of dispatches, reports, exhibitions, books, albums and documentary and feature films about the war in Bosnia. But as soon as the war ended reporters packed up their cameras and immediately set off for other conflicts," writes Wojciech Tochman in the book *As If You'd Eaten a Stone*. Tochman returned repeatedly to Bosnia and spoke mainly to women, whose stories tell us more about the nature of the war than statistics or political analyses. The seasoned reporter is





I didn't have the last word, incidentally

the author of numerous books of reporting from Poland, but also from impoverished areas in the Philippines and the Rwandan genocide. In 2015 he received an Amnesty International award for his work promoting and defending human rights. Tochman's book from 2002 was published in Czech in 2017 on the Absynt imprint in a translation by Lenka Kuhar Daňhelová. The journalist, dissident and Charter 77 signatory Jan Urban was a war correspondent in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to where he also helped deliver humanitarian aid. Urban's book *Všem sráčům navzdory: válka, o které nechcete nic vědět* (*Despite all the Bastards: The War You Don't Want to Know Anything About*) was first released in 1997 by the publishing house G plus G before being reissued in 2017 by Absynt. "Sarajevo is for me the centre of the world. Its conscience and future," Urban says in the book.

30 May

THE JOURNALIST IN THE MIDST OF WAR

War reporters encounter death, violence and the suffering of individuals on a daily basis. At the same time, their job is to send home reports from frequently distant and incomprehensible conflicts as impartial observers. A discussion between Piotr Górecki, a former war correspondent for Polish TV, and journalist Markéta Kutilová, who has been documenting the war against Islamic state in Syria and Iraq for several years. Piotr Górecki was a correspondent in Prague in the years 1990–1995. After 2004 he worked around the world as a television war reporter and for three years helmed his own show on topical and important international news stories on TVP Info. He received a Polish News Agency award for a report about the Afghan politician and military leader Ahmad Massoud. Markéta Kutilová has worked as a project coordinator on People in Need international missions in Iran and Haiti. She is the co-author of the book *Islámskému státu na dostřel* (*Islamic State Within Striking Distance*) and has produced TV reports on the fight against ISIS in Syria and Iraq. She is a member of the journalists' association Femisphera, which focuses on the situation of women and children in developing countries and conflict zones.

30 October

AN AFGHAN PRAYER FOR RAIN

A state whose territory was part of ancient empires as early as 800 B.C. is today associated with one thing: the Taliban. Polish reporter Wojciech Jagielski and young journalist Fatima Rahimi, whose family were forced to flee Afghanistan's Herat and who currently lives in the Czech Republic, discussed a country where

complicated armed conflicts have been going on for decades. Jagielski has visited Afghanistan several times, giving rise to the book *Praying for Rain*, which focuses on the period between spring 1992 and autumn 2001 and explores both the Afghan regime and the plans and interests of world powers. In 2003 it was nominated for the Nike literary prize. It was released by the Absynt publishing house in a Czech translation. In a discussion the acclaimed and experienced Polish reporter's viewpoint were complemented by the experiences of Fatima Rahimi, including dramatic escape, six-month journey into the unknown, years in refugee camps, life and study in the Czech Republic, as well as her view of the current situation in Afghanistan. Polish Studies expert and translator Michala Benešová moderated.



Adin Ljuca's *One White Day*

21 November

VOLHYNIA –POLISH AND CZECH MEMORIES

Same place, different recollections? Czechs and Poles were, alongside Ukrainians and Jews, village neighbours in Volhynia. In the first half of the 20th century the picturesque and fertile landscape became the site of bloody battles and the movement of both borders and inhabitants.

"When some kill others come with help" is the motto of *Sprawiedliwi zdrajcy* (Righteous Traitors) by the Polish journalist Witold Szabłowski (published in Czech by Pant in 2018, translated by Michala Benešová). In the book the author sets off on the trail of the what is known as the Volhynia Massacre, ethnic cleansing of Polish inhabitants in Ukraine in 1943–1944. Taking part in a discussion with the Polish journalist were the poet and translator Josef Mlejnek, author of the book *Volyň tam v dáli* (*Volhynia in the Distance*) (2015) and the descendant of people from Volhynia, and the painter Rostislav Zárybnický, who was born in 1936 in Sklíň and repatriated to Czechoslovakia with his family in 1947.



LITERARY EVENINGS

4 January

A READING FOR JOSEF ŠKVORECKÝ

Josef Škvorecký, one of the most important post-war Czech writers and the founder of the exile publishing house '68 Publishers, died six years ago, on 3 January 2012.

A host of personalities, aficionados of his work, experts and readers read from his books.

Introduced by Jachým Topol.

In cooperation with the Josef Škvorecký Society and the PEN Club.



11 January

MILOŠ DOLEŽAL: DOCUMENTING SMALL-TOWN NORMALISATION LIFE

Presentation of Miloš Doležal's new book *Jízda Na Skle Ochcanou Strání* (which could be translated as *Riding Glass Down a Piss-Sodden Slope*), which records shards and fragments of life in small-town Vysočina against the backdrop of 1970s and 1980s normalisation in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Real socialism in schizophrenic disproportion, absurdity and banality: the old world lives on somewhere on the periphery but careerists seize their opportunity, history is mendaciously distorted and the Red Star and hammer and sickle hang above the town square.

The author and Miroslav Hanuš read, Petr Adámek spoke and Michal Hrubý played the bassoon.

18 January

I DIDN'T HAVE THE LAST WORD, INCIDENTALLY

Ceremonial launch of Josef K. Šlejhar's novel *Cvrček mého krbu* (*The Cricket of My Fireplace*).

In his most extensive and hitherto unpublished in book form piece of prose writing, Josef K. Šlejhar, best known as the author of the novella *Kuře melancholic* (*Chicken Melancholic*), comes to terms with his marriage as well as with the world as such. Over more than 700 pages his unusually evocative and sensuous language he piles up images of days together, commonplace deliberations, memories and sensations. With an almost stenographic precision, he records the sequence of events that preceded the collapse of his life. With anger and humility, lover's fulminations and patriarchal pride, harshness and tenderness, he repeatedly endures evidence against his own fate. It lays accusations against him and holds him to account. With stubbornness he prepares a closing speech before a grand jury that has never sat and never will. Which changes nothing about the fact that the book is an exceptional, gripping read.

The evening was hosted by Pavel Hájek and Jaromír Typlt, a connoisseur of Šlejhar's work.

The actor Lukáš Jůza read excerpts from the novel.

24 January

EUGEN BRIKCIUS: POSTIL

The versatile artist and writer, prankster, Dadaist and Chartist Eugen Brikcius has produced his 19th book. *Postila* (*Postil*) is an analysis: of life and work, generally and specifically. A 36-minute novel with illustrations by Ellen Jilemnická.

The book was presented by the author of its foreword, Tomáš Kubíček, a professor of Czech literature and the director of Brno's Moravian Provincial Library. Later Radim Kopáč moderated a discussion with the writer, while the author read selected excerpts.

Guest: Andreas Schmidinger, director of the Austrian Cultural Forum.

8 February

ADIN LJUCA'S ONE WHITE DAY

In his new book *One White Day*, Adin Ljuca chronicles the story of a man who finds himself inadvertently in an extreme situation of war, illness and loss, which the Bosnian writer observes from a perspective bereft of pathos or a veil of melancholy. He composes a sophisticated mosaic from fragments of human fate, telling the intimate story of a man and woman whose war-time experience have left them without any illusions or many of their nearest and dearest.

Following the outbreak of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina Adin Ljuca was injured in the defence of Maglaj. He has lived in Prague since 1992 and has been a librarian at the Slavic Library for many years. He has published the poetry collection *Hegira and Stalactite* and the short story collection *Tattooed Pictures*.

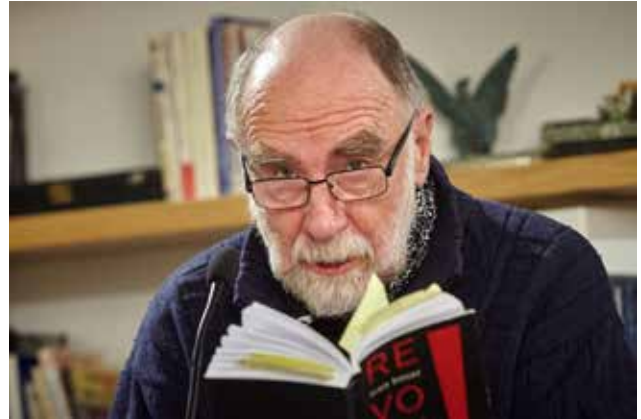
His book *One White Day* was translated by leading Balkan Studies expert František Šístek. He helmed a discussion with the author on images and stereotypes of the Balkans, Czech-South Slav relations, nationalism, the refugee phenomenon and literary matters.

12 February

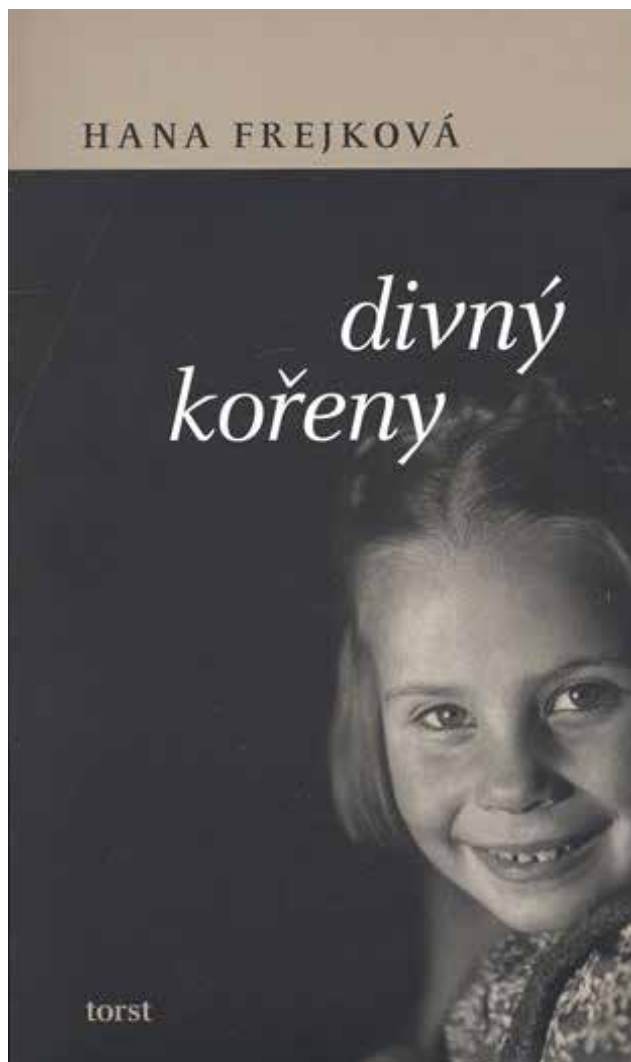
SVETLANA ALEXIEVICH: SECOND HAND TIME: THE LAST OF THE SOVIETS

Presentation of an audio version of the book by the 2015 laureate of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Second Hand Time is a completely extraordinary book by an exceptional writer who has received the most prestigious Russian, European and American literary awards. Following hopeful beginnings, the end of the Communist regime and the subsequent breakup of the Soviet empire left citizens disappointed, frustrated and disorientated. The text is a mosaic of dozens of genuine voices that Svetlana Alexievich recorded on a Dictaphone during interviews with a wide range of people and turned into literature. Her interviewees testify about how they believed in the Soviet system, how they killed and died for its ideals, about the secrets and horrors of communism, about



Ivan Binar: *Revolution!*



the Stalinist Gulag, war, Chernobyl... They also offer a deep probe into Russian society and help us understand its current developments. In addition, they force readers to ponder what Russia is and why it is incapable of faster modernisation. Why the popularity of the autocrat Putin is around 85 percent and why 70 percent of Russians regard Stalin as a great man. It is a book about why Great Russia chauvinism is not just still alive but, heaven help us, ever more militant.

Helena Dvořáková, Hana Kofránková and Apolena Veldová read from the book

The moderator was Aleš Vrzák, director of the audio book, and translator Libor Dvořák. Vladimír Pistorius, who published it in book form, appeared as a guest.

Organised by the VHL in cooperation with publishers Radioservis.

15 February LOST IN TRANSLATION II

The Czech Literary Translators' Guild and the Václav Havel Library invited publishers and translators to a round-table discussion on how publishers select foreign literature for translation, how they select translators to work on them and how cooperation between translators and editors works.

Speakers: Jindřich Jůzl of publishers Odeon, Anna Rezková Horáčková of Paseka and Petr Januš of Rubato. Translators were represented by German Studies expert Tereza Semotamová and Jovanka Šotolová. Chaired by Hispanic Studies expert Blanka Stárková.

20 February TARGET JULEK

Presentation of an exceptional graphic novel tribute to Julek Varga – a seriously ill dissident who was a thorn in the side of the StB. Julius Varga got extremely sick at the age of nine after being inoculated against jaundice and became bedbound. Despite this he set out to take on not just his serious illness (the regime forbade his family from travelling to Switzerland for treatment) but also the totalitarian system. He converted to Christianity and began studying theology and philosophy. The Varga apartment in Šumperk became a gathering place for dissidents, former political prisoners and intellectuals, and among those who visited the charismatic Julek were Dominik Duka, Josef Zvěřina, Oto Mádr and Václav Malý. Soon the State Security began to monitor Julius Varga, setting up the "Julek" file on him in the spring of 1989. Shortly after the revolution in 1989 Julek got to see foreign doctors for the first time. However, by then

his illness was too far advanced. He died at the age of 32. Director Ondřej Elbel began working on a graphic novel about Julek in 2014. Designer Martin Jabůrek was doing the illustrations but died suddenly in February 2015. His friends Butula-Cichá, Chalánková, Estrada, Karpíšek and Matyska completed the work.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Větrné mlýny publishing house.

8 March

MAGNESIA LITERA I

The Litera association presented readings at the Václav Havel Library by writers who have been nominated in some of the categories in the annual Magnesia Litera writing awards.

Jana Šrámková read from the children's book *Bratři v poli* (*Brothers in a Field*), Ondřej Hanus from the poetry collection *Volné verše* (*Free Verse*), Ondřej Horák from the novella *Nebožtík* (*The Deceased*) and Josef Pánek from the novel *Láska v době globálních klimatických změn* (*Love in a Time of Climate Change*).

Pavel Mandys from organisers Litera moderated the event.

14 March

MAGNESIA LITERA II

The Litera association presented readings at the Václav Havel Library by writers who have been nominated in some of the categories in the annual Magnesia Litera writing awards.

Erik Tabery read from *Opuštěná společnost* (*Abandoned Society*) (nominated in the journalism category), debut poet Anna Prstková from the collection *49°27'45.249''N, 17°58'36.107''E* (DILIA Litera for New Discovery), Lucie from the novel *Lapači prachu* (*The Dust Catchers*) and Ivana Myšková from the short story collection *Bílá zvířata jsou velmi často hluchá* (*White Animals are Often Deaf*) (both prose category).

Pavel Mandys from organisers Litera moderated the event.

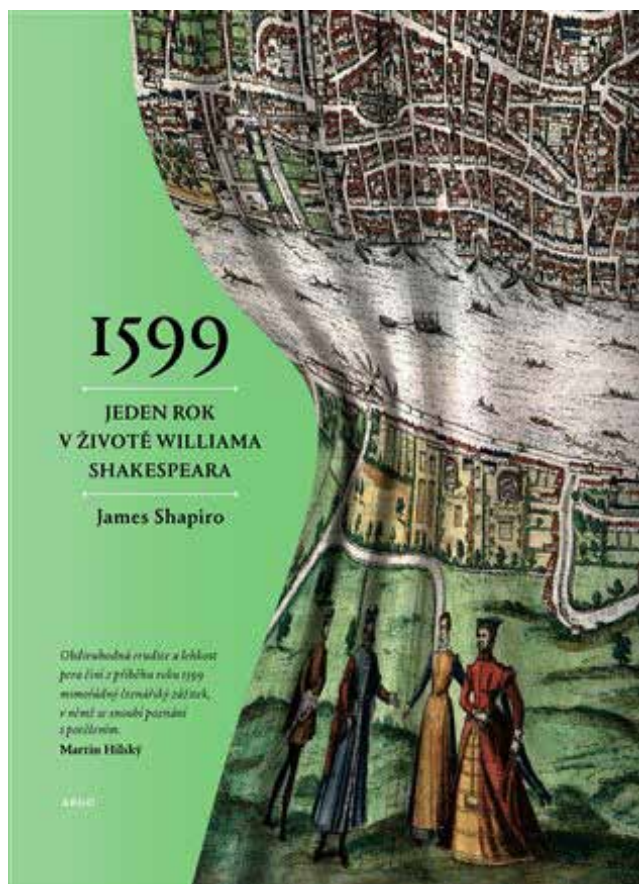
15 March

IVAN BINAR – REVOLUTION!

Reading from his new novel by Ivan Binar. *Revoluce!* (*Revolution!*) is a painfully humorous book about how a joy-filled walk in the forest can suddenly turn into an existential horror. It doesn't take much: in the deep forest, with gentle birdsong in the background, an ordinary upstanding young man meets two single-minded police officers carrying out a task, which is creating and uncovering the enemy within...

The Charter 77 signatory and author Ivan Binar was imprisoned in the 1970s for sedition that he was meant to have committed





during the musical *Son of the Regiment*. He was a Radio Free Europe editor while in exile and became a freelance writer following his return. He is one of the few contemporary authors focused on what might be dubbed the Christian roots of our civilisation. In his view, life, no matter how hard, has meaning; revenge is not a solution and leads at best to a chain of further injustices. While in his novels Binar frequently moves between very bizarre or dreamlike milieus, the effort to get to the essence of human existence is a constant.

The author read from *Revoluce!* and hosted the evening. Jiří Šlupka Svěrák appeared as a guest.

21 March MAGNESIA LITERA III

The Litera association presented readings at the Václav Havel Library by writers who have been nominated in some of the categories in the annual Magnesia Litera writing awards.

Anna Křivánková, Antonín Tesař and Karel Veselý read from *Planeta Nippon* (*Planet Nippon*) (journalism category), Michal Jareš read from the poetry collection *Začátek eposu* (*Start of an Epoch*) (Moleskin Litera for poetry), and Petra Soukupová read from *Kdo zabil Snížka?* (*Who Killed Snížek?*) (children and young adults) and *Nejlepší pro všechny* (*The Best for Everybody*) (prose).

Pavel Mandys from organisers Litera moderated the event.

22 March HANA FREJKOVÁ: STRANGE ROOTS

Ludvík Frejka, the father of actress and singer Hana Frejková, was charged with espionage and treason in the 1952 show trial of Rudolf Slánský and a subversive conspiratorial group, sentenced to death and executed.

At that time Hana was seven. Her life was marked forever by the tragedy and this was compounded by how little she knew about the history of her father and entire family. She spent several years reconstructing the story of her family as an adult, searching out and corresponding with relatives but mainly focusing on the archives of the Ministry of the Interior. The complicated, decades-long journey through ancient events and what she learned on that difficult pilgrimage are the subject of her tellingly-titled book *Divný kořeny* (*Strange Roots*).

The songs of *Jidiš ve třech* (Hana Frejková, Marianna Borecká, Milan Potoček, Slavek Brabec) were performed at the launch of the audio book.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with publishers Radioservis.

28 March

MAGNESIA LITERA IV

The Litera association presented readings at the Václav Havel Library by writers who have been nominated in some of the categories in the annual Magnesia Litera writing awards.

Anna Bolavá read from the novel *Ke dnu* (*To the Bottom*), Milan Děžinsky from *Obcházení*

Ostrova (*Leaving the Island*), Marek Švehla from the biography *Magor a jeho doba* (*Magor and His Period*) and František Tichý from the young adult book *Transport za věčnost* (*Transport to Eternity*).

Pavel Mandys from organisers Litera moderated the event.

6 April

ALEŠ PALÁN AND JAN ŠIBÍK: THE WILDERNESS IS THE BEST PLACE TO GO CRAZY

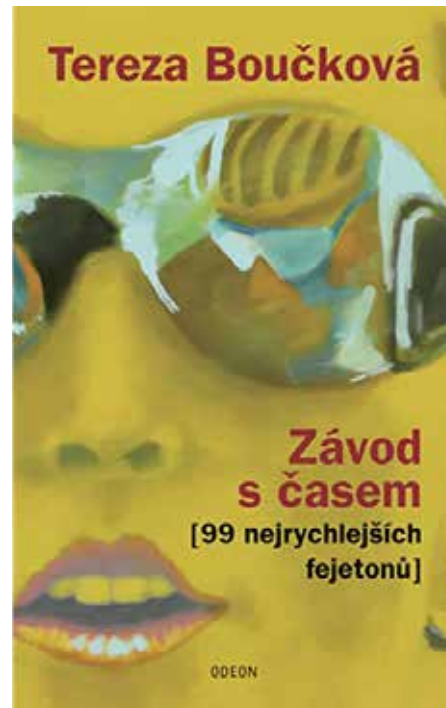
Raději Zešítet V Divočině (*The Wilderness is the Best Place to Go Crazy*) is a book about pilgrims and loners in Šumava whose attitudes and lives are totally out of the ordinary. Via eight interviews with people living permanently outside civilisation, novelist Aleš Palán provides insights into a world of whose existence we know nothing. We encounter wild animals, cruel winters and even apparitions. The book, complemented by the photography of Jan Šibík explores secret corners of both the landscape and the human soul. Of long-term solitude and isolation. Of a parallel world that asks very unsettling questions of ours.

9 April

JIŘÍ KŘIŽAN: THE SHADOW

Ceremonial presentation of Jiří Křižan's novel *Stín* (*The Shadow*), the powerfully autobiographical story of an orphaned country boy raised by his old-world, fair-minded grandfather, interspersed with "half-witted" tales from alternative military service. It is a narrative that evokes an almost physical sense of what it is like to grow up on the margins of society as a stigmatised "class enemy" and second-class "former person" due to political tyranny.

Jiří Křižan (1941–2010) was one of the most distinctive Czech screenwriters of the second half of the 20th century (e.g., *Shadows of a Hot Summer*, 1977, dir. František Vlácil; *Signum laudis* 1980, dir. Martin Hollý; *Sekal Has to Die*, 1998, dir. Vladimír Michálek) and a leading representative of the pre-Velvet Revolution opposition (initiator of a January 1989 campaign to





King Škrábal, or Ivan Krasopílec.



have Václav Havel released from jail, founding member of Civic Forum).

The author and his colourful life were discussed by Karel Schwarzenberg and his daughters Rebeka Bartůňková and Barbora Křižanová. The actor Pavel Rímský read from the novel and the book's editor Pavel Hájek hosted the evening

24 May

BEATRICE LANDOVSKÁ: AN EVENING OF POETRY

The 1980s poems of Beatrice Landovská are a relatively little known part of Czech written poetry of the totalitarian era. The writer published her verse on duplicated editions intended for a circle of friends and acquaintances in the unofficial arts community of the dissent and underground. The dominant themes are existential hardships and erotic adventures, which were in no short supply in the courageous life.

The evening featured underground texts, poems and songs and completely banned and long defunct groups, as well as films and photographs from those legendary days.

The poet was introduced by Jáchym Topol and Vít Kremlička.

7 June

I'M READING YOU A POEM – LISTEN

Now traditional poetry reading within the 11th edition of the festival Stranou – European Poets Live in which Czech, Polish, Austrian, Romanian and Slovenian authors will present their work.

Guests: Mircea Dan Duta, Katarina Gomboc, Markéta Hejrná, Milan Hrabal, Barbara Korun, Andrej Makuc, Hana Mžourková, Jani Oswald, Jurij Paljk, Ana Porenta, Simona Racková and Jan Štolba.

The evening was compered by Lenka and Peter Kuhar.

13 June

PETR BORKOVEC – NOBODY LOVES A MAN WHO BURNS HIMSELF TO DEATH IN FRONT OF A MIRROR

Reading from the poetry collection *Herbář k čemusi horšimu* (*Herbarium for Something Worse*) and the book of short stories *Lido di Dante*. *Herbarium for Something Worse*, a collection from the illustrious contemporary poet and prose author Petr Borkovec, is something between an atlas and a rubbish dump.

The short story collection *Lido di Dante* takes us to a small resort a few kilometres from Ravenna in which the streets are

named after characters in *The Divine Comedy*. It's a spot that is dazzling and gorgeous (the sea and the beach, water birds in lagoons, an institute for the study of dunes and a wonderfully sunny coastal pine forest) and also dark (an ancient nudist beach, aggressive naturists, oil drilling, transvestites, prostitutes, bars full of thieves and the scary pine forest in which Dante wrote *The Inferno*). Twelve texts create a small guide-book to a spot in which light and shade alternate a tad faster than we are used to.

14 June

KATEŘINA HILSKÁ AND MARTIN HILSKÝ: SHAKESPEARE 1599

William Shakespeare is for the most part regarded as a "timeless" writer transcending his era and speaking to past and contemporary audiences about universal themes. However, in his book *1599: A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare* James Shapiro depicts him as an author strongly influenced by the political and cultural events of his day.

In the landmark year of 1599, in which Shakespeare wrote *Henry V*, *Julius Caesar*, *As You Like It* and *Hamlet*, the Globe theatre opened, the Earl of Essex was sent to Ireland and the whole country feared another clash with the Spanish Armada. Kateřina Hilská, the book's translator, and Professor Martin Hilský, who has translated all of Shakespeare's works, discussed "timeless Shakespeare".

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with publishers Argo.

12 September

TEREZA BOUČKOVÁ: THE RACE AGAINST TIME

"I selected texts that I think are timeless and good and simply stand up as literature. I left out singularly political texts, as they get old very quickly. But even still the book reflects the time in which we live. I write about it with sadness and disenchantment – and above all with humour and irony!"

Tereza Boučková's latest book *Závod s časem (99 nejrychlejších fejetonů)* (*The Race Against Time (The 99 Fastest Essays)*) was welcomed by Pavel Kohout, Jiří Bouček, Vincenc Bouček and the editor-in-chief of Odeon, Jindřich Jůzl.

1 October

KAREL PECKA – THE GULAG CONSTELLATION

Presentation of the book *Souhvězdí Gulag (The Gulag Constellation)*, a selection of work by the late writer, political prisoner and dissident Karel Pecka. The evening was also a get-together



Věra Jirousová: *Tweets 1956–1963*.



Ivan Martin Jirous – *The Wizard*.

of his friends, readers, admirers, fellow prisoners and colleagues held in connection with the 90th anniversary of his birth. There were recollections of Karel Pecka, songs, poems and readings of excerpts from his books.

Guests: writer Jiří Stránský, the collection's publisher Daniel Pagáč, psychiatrist and teacher Cyril Höschl, sociologist Jiřina Šiklová, writer Hana Gerzaničová, historian Petr Blažek, Cardinal Dominik Duka and others.

Chaired by publisher Jiří Padevět and Jáchym Topol.

5 October

MIHAIL SEBASTIAN: HOW I BECAME A HOOLIGAN

The scandal sparked by the publication in 1934 of the novel *Two Thousand Years/How I Became a Hooligan* by the then 27-year-old writer Mihail Sebastian exceeded the bounds of literature and fuelled the anti-Semitic passions of that era. The novel maps in quasi-diary form the events, social climate and atmosphere of Romania's bohemia between 1922 and 1933. It also attempts to describe and delineate the status of Jews, the position of the individual against the masses and the intellectual against the world and explores the metaphysical subject of solitude. At the same time, this once scandalous and revolutionary book, long a classic, remains strikingly current to this day.

The book and its author were discussed by translator Hana Herrmannová, philosopher and writer Ciprian Vâlcan and Professor Michael Finkenthal.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Romanian Cultural Institute and the publishers Herrmann & synové under the auspices of the Embassy of the State of Israel.

18 October

KING ŠKRÁBAL, OR IVAN KRASOPICEC

In March 1945 Hugo Vavrečka wrote his for grandson Ivan M. Havel *Pohádka O králi Škrábalovi čili Ivanovi krasopisci (A Fairy Tale About King Škrábal, or Ivan Krasopicec)*. Soon afterwards the text disappeared in the swirl of post-war events and only now did it reach its intended reader, over 70 years later, in connection with celebrations of Ivan M. Havel's 80th birthday. The book was presented, and congratulations conveyed, by Jana Wohlmuth Markupová, who rediscovered the book in the Baťa archive in Zlín and prepared the new edition, illustrator Jan Laštovička, editor Pavel Hájek and many others.

23 October

POETS OF MORAVIA

An evening of readings specially put together for the VHL by Olomouc prose author, visual artist and drama therapist Milan Valenta and his friends – poets from greater and lesser Haná – Ruda B. Beran, Miroslav Demel and Michal Růžička.

These poetic rebels of Moravian villages and towns create original, idiosyncratic work and are connected by the curious fact that the party and government banned them forever right before the 1989 revolution. The writers' texts were accompanied by original music by the Moravian folk rock group Střemkoš.

24 October

MIŘENKA ČECHOVÁ: MISS AMERIKA

The book *Miss Amerika* is a fictitious document centred on the Eastern European illegal alien McKenzie Tomski that sarcastically depicts her experiences of New York, its inhabitants and trends and her own journey. Miřenka Čechová wrote the raw short stories during an artistic residence she spent in the Big Apple. Inspired by the city, fascinated by its people and their stories and overwhelmed by opportunities and absurdities, she delivers an uncompromisingly candid report about the state of the world through the eyes of McKenzie Tomski. Performer Čechová presented her book in conversation with Zdenka Součková, director of the American Spring festival. Co-organised by the Václav Havel Library and Echoes of the American Spring Festival.

25 October

LADISLAV HEJDÁNEK: THE CZECHS AND EUROPE

The philosopher and Charter 77 spokesman Ladislav Hejdánek addresses pressing topical subjects in his new book. These include disturbing "mob minds" succumbing to pseudo scientists, the threats posed by nationalism and the role of the nation.

The book was introduced by its editor Jan Hron, while Martin Palouš and Jiří Pehe also spoke.

5 November

VĚRA JIROUSOVÁ: TWEETS 1956–1963

The second half of the 1950s. Stalin is not long dead. A train passes through Libeň. Workers continue to live and work on Prague's proletariat periphery. From the only lit window a little school girl observes the world around her. What has happened to her today and what awaits her tomorrow...?



Vladimír Hanzel's listening disco.



Blanka Fišerová: The 10 Commandments According to Dagmar – final performance.



Czech-American relations after 1989.



Dear Mother / Dear Alice.

Tobiáš Jirous and the creator of the original illustrations, Matěj Lipavský, presented a book by Věra Jirousová from a time before she bore that name. Her diaries from the 1950s, an unexpected find, depict a nascent personality whose attitudes later influenced others. A deeply subterranean text, which preceded the underground, has come to the surface.

5 November LOST IN TRANSLATION III: EDITING IS ESSENTIAL!

Do you look at the credits on books? Are you aware of what the work of the editors and proof readers concerned actually involves? Do some publishers confuse editing with proof reading? Is it completely clear to editors today what their task is? And do translators know what they should and can expect from editors? What are the purview and responsibilities of those engaged in producing books in translation? What should they be? Who is responsible for the final text?

The process by which books in translation are produced, from purchase of publishing rights to sale in bookshops, was discussed at a forum for editors and publishers focused this time on the translator-editor-publisher relationship.

Taking part in the discussion were Jan Zelenka, English Studies expert and former editor at publishers Odeon; Jitka Jindřišková, Nordic Studies specialist and editor; Petr Eliáš, English Studies expert and editor-in-chief of the Albatros Media publishing house; and Filip Tomáš, bohemist and publisher (Akropolis). Anežka Charvátová, who is a Hispanic Studies expert, translator and editor in one, chaired the debate.

Organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Czech Literary Translators' Guild.

19 November IF SORROW SMOULDERED

The occupation of Czechoslovakia through the eyes of Finnish poet Eeva-Liisa Manner.

Anxiety, despair, the arrival of Barbarians, spent shells. The invasion of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops in August 1968 shocked the entire world and also found a response in international literature. The major Finnish modernist poet Eeva-Liisa Manner addressed the tragic event in intensely lyrical form in the collection *If Sorrow Smouldered* (*Jos suru savuaisi*) published in 1968. She dedicated it to her friend Václav Havel, whose plays she had translated into Finnish in the 1960s and about whose fate she received only fragmentary, unverified reports in the first days of the occupation.

The context in which the collection was written and reactions to it in Finland, Eeva-Liisa Manner's unique relationship to Czech and Slovak culture and Finnish political, social and cultural responses to the occupation of Czechoslovakia were discussed by translator Michal Švec and historian Barbora Skálová. The evening was complemented by readings from the collection *If Sorrow Smouldered*, which was heard in Czech for the first time, 50 years after its publication.

The evening also included a presentation of the Czech novel *V domě básničky (In the Poet's Home)*, in which author Helena Sinervo takes on Eeva-Liisa Manner's life story in a poetic manner.

Event organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Finnish Embassy in Prague as part of the year-long Scandinavian House project Northern Literature in the Heart of Europe 2018, which has been supported by the Czech Ministry of Culture and the City of Prague.

26 November

IVAN MARTIN JIROUS – SEVEN YEARS SINCE HIS DEATH

"Baptism" of the book *Mága* and a project to digitalise Jirous's work.

The main subject of *Mága (The Wizard)* is the poet Ivan Martin Jirous. The book is an unusual combination of diary entries by Jirous's daughter Františka Jirousová and her friend Jana Bauerová. They called Jirous *Mág* (meaning wizard or magician), a play on his nickname *Magor* (madman), and the book records events in Prostřední Vydří, Prague and Stará říše between 1997 and 2011.

The diaries map moments of Jirous's life that other media were unable to capture, in particular everyday trifles and habits, such as his relationship to animals or how music moved him. The entries show the Jirous of the 1990s in a different light from how he was then seen by the public – as a drunk and provocateur. Both writers took part in the presentation.

In the second part of the evening we introduced a project of the Municipal Library in Prague under which it is issuing all of Jirous's poetry as e-books. Richard Olehla outlined its plans and prospects.

Aleš Palán moderated.



Šenkyřík, Jirous, Vtípil: I vši.



Theatre, photography evenings, music and film

22 January

VÁCLAV HAVEL: THE PIG AND ELA, HELA AND THE HITCH

On how a playwright has desperately searched for a pig for a pig-killing and how old ladies hitch rides. Vlnoř read Havel, with the Divadlo Prima den theatre having prepared a stage reading of these entertaining "trifles". The members of the theatre invited friends from their part of Prague, giving rise to an enjoyable and essentially neighbourly event. Havel can also be read like this – at home in the kitchen or in the neighbours' garden.

Readers and actors: David Smoljak, Robert Rytina, Markéta Kilingerová, Barbora Marysková

Also featuring: Václava Zahradníčková, Jana Bačová-Kroftová

31 January

VLADIMÍR HANZEL'S LISTENING DISCO

Vladimír Hanzel was for 14 years secretary to Václav Havel, both as a dissident and as president, and is also an expert on music. He was responsible for official and unofficial contact with musicians. He organised a musical evening with Bill Clinton at Reduta jazz club (1994), was co-organiser of the first ever mega-concert in this country, an appearance by the Rolling Stones at Strahov stadium (1990), and helped set up and took part in Havel's personal meetings with the Velvet Underground, Mstislav Rostropovich, Bob Dylan, Dizzy Gillespie, Tina Turner, Pink Floyd, Sinéad O'Connor, Sting, Lou Reed and many, many more.

Vladimír Hanzel discussed those subjects and more and played examples of the music concerned.

26 February

BLANKA FIŠEROVÁ: THE 10 COMMANDMENTS ACCORDING TO DAGMAR – FINAL PERFORMANCE

Let's not be indifferent toward our past; it can after all very easily and quickly repeat itself...

The 10 Commandments According to Dagmar was a stage reading of Dagmar Šimková's book *Byly jsme tam taky (We Were There Too)*. It is a very personal, internal, authentic testimony about the Communist prisons in which the author spent 14 years. Her recollections don't lack either perspective or inspiring and appropriate firmness of opinion. She says far more

about the period and the absurdity and monstrosity of the Communist regime than a few lines in a history textbook could. The book was transformed into a stage reading by Blanka Fišerová, who is also its only actor, and performances always retain an improvisational character. We got to hear not only excerpts from the book but also fragments of engaged poetic art and quotations from period documents.

16 – 19 April

AMERICAN SPRING FESTIVAL AT VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY

The international festival American Spring showcased emerging American and Czech artists. In connection with the centenary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia and the centenary of Czech-US relations, three discussions and a stage reading were held at the Václav Havel Library within the festival. Organised by the Institute for Czech-American Relations and the VH Library.

16 April

CZECH-AMERICAN RELATIONS AFTER 1918

A century ago the US was involved in the foundation of Czechoslovakia. Does this place any obligations on us regarding the future? And is it possible to live off the post-1989 tradition of strong alliance alone? Contemporary Czech-American relations will be discussed by figures who have been inspired by the US in their professional lives.

Chaired by Daniel Anýž. Guests: Jiří Schneider, Vít Smetana, Václav Pecha.

17 April

CZECH-AMERICAN RELATIONS AFTER 1989

Czech-American relations and geopolitics in important years ending in eight (1918, 1938, 1948 and 1968). Might anything have been different? And what can the Czech Republic expect from the turbulent presidency of Donald Trump? A talk featuring Czech historians and diplomats. Chaired by Daniel Anýž. Guests: Michael Žantovský, Ondřej Kania and Miřenka Čechová.

18 April

AN EVENING FOR H.G. SKILLING

Friends and colleagues came together to remember the still relevant legacy of H.G. Skilling, an expert on Czech and Slovak history, supporter of Charter 77 and recipient of Czechoslovakia's Order of the White Lion. Guests: Jiřina Šíková, Miroslav Kusý and Vilém Prečan. Chaired by David Vaughan.



Recollections of Lou Reed – Fernando Saunders Concert.



Psí vojáci: Music on the Canvas.



19 April

DEAR MOTHER / DEAR ALICE

Stage reading of letters by exceptional women close to TGM – Charlotte and Alice Masaryk.

Actors: Daniela Kolářová, Marie Málková, dramaturgy: Lucie Němečková, director: Zuzana Burianová. The reading was followed by a debate with Czech historian Marie Neudorftová, who has been focused on Masaryk-related subjects for some years.

24 April

ŠENKÝŘÍK, JIROUS, VTÍPIL: I VŠI

The poems of Ivan Martin Jirous, in which hyenas, jackals and werewolves appear alongside angels and the Virgin Mary, were set to music by Tomáš Šenkýřík over a period of 15 years. "I brought a recording to Magor [Jirous] in Prostřední Vydří, but he wasn't home so I placed it on the window ledge. About two years later I met Magor at Roxy and he spoke enthusiastically about how I had put it to music. I was euphoric about it." After several more meetings Jirous gave Šenkýřík permission to put any of his poems to music. The album *I vši*, which came out on the Indies label in August 2014, contains 14 pieces produced by Tomáš Vtípil. Tomáš Šenkýřík, Tomáš Vtípil, Marie Puttnerová and Tomáš Hradil performed at the VH Library.

30 May

PAVEL HROCH: FACES OF RESISTANCE

A series of photographs by Pavel Hroch.

The Czech 20th century was long and cruel and to this day society has not come to terms with it. The people whose portraits Pavel Hroch has taken for this series of photographs managed in the years 1938/39–1989 to stand up to evil, to risk their lives and to put justice and culture ahead of their own peace and comfort. Each belongs to a minority whose actions contributed to a worthy tradition, to the fact that we have something to build on today.

Pavel Hroch spoke about how he found and captured "his people", and what the series meant to him personally, with Viktor Portel.

13 September

T. G. MASARYK – OVERRATED OR UNDERATED?

The Masaryk phenomenon and its significance today, or Film evening with a guest.

Do we idealise the "president liberator" as a national idol? Or do we, by contrast, overlook him and fail to devote due attention to his legacy?

A documentary with fictional elements from Věra Chytilová and unique period footage from the National Film Archive helped shine a light on the personality of T.G.M.

Associate Professor Michal Stehlík, the deputy director of the National Museum and creator of the exhibition The Masaryk Phenomenon, spoke. Czech Radio journalist Magdaléna Trusinová chaired the first of three evenings on the theme of "Famous Evangelists: Masaryk, Horáková, Palach", which took place in connection with the centenary of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren.

4 October

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW

Banned literature was smuggled into Communist Czechoslovakia in various ways. One of the toughest physically was carrying dozens of kilogrammes of books from Poland over passes in the Tatra Mountains. It was chiefly religious literature that, with the help of strong young volunteers, reached Slovakia in that way. What happened when a smuggler was caught and arrested? And what was the reaction of Polish border guards, in whose country the circulation of religious literature was most commonplace?

A screening of the film *Footsteps in the Snow* (2015) was followed by a discussion with the film's director, Slavomír Zrebný, and Eduard Burget, a cultural historian at the Institute for Czech Literature.

The film was screened as part of the COURAGE-PAREVO international festival of documentary films, which is one of the high points of the three-year international research project COURAGE: Cultural opposition – understanding the cultural legacy of dissent in the countries of the former socialist bloc.

9 October

Festival of Democracy and VH Library debates

The Festival of Democracy took place as an accompanying programme to the Forum 2000 conference. At the Václav Havel Library presented discussions on the value of intergenerational relationships in contemporary society, a round table with journalists and a debate on whether it wasn't time for the first female Czech president.

I INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

Each generation differentiates itself from the previous one in some way, leading to clashes and misunderstandings. Throw in



Dagmar Voňková (Šafrán in folk's glorious days).



Jaroslav Hutka (Šafrán in folk's glorious days).



Vladimír Merta (Šafrán in folk's glorious days).

accelerated societal development and things are even worse. Can the generations still understand one another at all? Do they need one another? Are they still an inspiration to each other as used to be the case? What is the image of seniors in today's society and, on the other hand, how do seniors view today's society? What mutual prejudices prevail in society, how do they arise and what is their outcome?

Guests: Tereza Komárková, director and programme chief of the Duhový tandem association, Zdeněk Svoboda, director of the foundation Lepší senior, Michaela Stachová, director of the Krása pomoci foundation, and Marcela Nevšimalová, founder and director of the Moje velké přání foundation. In cooperation with Forum 2000 and the organisation Duhový tandem.

II MEDIA ROUND TABLE

A discussion on topical political, economic and social issues with journalists and commentators from a variety of media organisations. A panel of foreign journalists and correspondents discussed "post-truth" media outlets, disinformation and social media.

Guests: Natalia Churikova (RFE/RL), Daniel Anyž (Hospodařské noviny and Aktualně.cz), Nedim Dervisbegovic (RFE/RL) and Todd Nesbitt (UNYP). Daniela Retková was moderator. In cooperation with Forum 2000 and the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art.

III TIME FOR THE FIRST FEMALE CZECH PRESIDENT

Almost a century after women received suffrage is it time for the first female Czech president? Why have we never had a female head of state? Do women face barriers in politics? What can we do to ensure that more women stand in future presidential elections? The equality of women and men in political decision-making is an integral element of democratic values and a democratic society.

Guests: Michal Horáček, candidate in the 2018 presidential elections, Veronika Šprincová, director of Fórum 50 %.

In cooperation with Forum 2000, Fórum 50 % and the Czech Women's Lobby.

11 October

RESISTANCE IN THE WORK OF MILADA HORÁKOVÁ

An exceptional woman who did not bow down to the power of any regime. Face to face with persecution and death, she managed to stand up for her principles.

The documentary Případ Dr. Horáková (The Case of Dr. Horáková) (1990, 80 min.) contains authentic footage and



recalls her show trial and final days. After a screening the historian Professor Dana Musilová placed Milada Horáková's work in a new light and discussed her life's work and service.

Second evening on the theme "Famous Evangelists: Masaryk, Horáková, Palach" that took place in connection with the centenary of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren. Czech Radio journalist Magdaléna Trusinová moderated.

26 October

Recollections of Lou Reed – Fernando Saunders Concert

Appearance by US singer, composer producer and virtuoso bass guitar player Fernando Saunders. For over 30 years he stood side by side with Lou Reed, founder of the famous band The Velvet Underground, who died five years ago prior to this event. Saunders was also alongside Reed during a concert at the White House requested by Václav Havel.

Performers: Fernando Saunders, Karel Holas, Igor Ochepovsky, Jiří Zabystrzan and Zdeněk Puchmeltr Jr. Tomáš Turek introduced the event.

3 November

PSÍ VOJÁCI: MUSIC ON THE CANVAS

Music on the Canvas returned to the Václav Havel Library exactly a year later. Eight pictures by the artist Sára Svobodová inspired by the songs and lyrics of Filip Topol and Psí vojáci and celebrate in an intimate fashion the 39th anniversary of their first official concert, which took place at the Prague Jazz Days festival on 3 November 1979.

15 November

FILM SERIES: JAN PALACH

Rejecting evil with silent protest, or Film evening with guest The film Jan Palach (2018, 124 min.) focuses on the final months of the student who laid down his life to make an emphatic statement to a submissive Czechoslovakia. He refused to accept repression and 20 years later his action resulted in freedom for all his compatriots.

The guest in the second part of the evening was actor Viktor Zavadi, who followed the changing atmosphere "through Palach's eyes" and depicted his thinking and decision on screen.

Final evening on the theme "Famous Evangelists: Masaryk, Horáková, Palach", which took place in connection with the centenary of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren. Czech Radio journalist Magdaléna Trusinová moderated.

17 November

THEATRE NIGHT 2018 – THE POWER OF THE POWERLESS

The date of last year's Theatre Night, 17 November, is crucial in Czech history. This made it highly appropriate to combine the subjects of historical breakthrough, societal change, revolution and theatre. These subjects come together in the person of Václav Havel – a successful playwright and essayist who was also a human rights campaigner and the first president of the newly democratic Czechoslovakia. On 17 November two simultaneous events took place at the Václav Havel Library:

The Power of the Powerless – Divadlo Feste theatre company, Brno

An experimental production (directed by Jiří Honzirek) not staged indoors but in public spaces in the city. A "travelling" theatre and music performance based on Václav Havel's *The Power of the Powerless*, *Letters to Olga* and monologues from his plays that took place during a walk from Ostrovní St. through Narodní and Václav Havel's Living Room to the embankment restaurant Vltava and back past the house The Two Thousand, where Václav Havel lived.

From the Theatre to Power

For those unable to make the walk, the Václav Havel Library archive screened the documentary *From the Theatre to Power* by Czech-French director Karel Prokop. It maps the journey of the stagehand, dramaturge and budding author from the small Prague theatre Na zábradlí to the head of the freshly democratic country. It was produced shortly after the Velvet Revolution and contains unique footage, interviews and excerpts from Havel's plays performed by top French actors.

12 December

JIRÍ ČERNÝ: IN THE ŠAFRÁN ERA

Jiří Černý's playback session was dedicated to the phenomenon of the singer-songwriters association Šafrán (1972–1978). Černý, a music journalist, was there when Czech urban folk song writing was born at the end of the 1960s, appearing on stage with Šafrán members and working with them over many years. The evening focused on his view of the key names in Czech folk and their work.

The event is organised by the Václav Havel Library as an accompanying event to the exhibition *From Ear to Ear*, or the Šafrán Phenomenon.

17 December

ŠAFRÁN IN FOLK'S GLORIOUS DAYS

Pre-Christmas get-together of Šafrán singer-songwriters (Vladimír Merta, Jaroslav Hutka, Petr Lutka, Dagmar Voňková, Vladimír Veit, Oskar Petr, etc.), who looked back at their beginnings 50 years previously and the greatest era of Czechoslovak folk, as well as playing songs and fielding questions from the audience.

This gathering of names from the one-time Šafrán association of singer-songwriters at the Václav Havel Library was an accompanying event to the exhibition *From Ear to Ear*, or the Šafrán Phenomenon. It took place at the Clementinum and was organised by the Czech National Library and publishers Galén under the auspices of Ombudswoman Anna Šabatová and partners: PEN International – Czech Centre, Václav Havel Library and Seznam.cz.

Education

The Václav Havel Library's educational projects are focused on elementary school pupils and secondary school and third level students and through the legacy of Václav Havel motivate the young generation to reflect on issues surrounding civic society, democracy and human rights. In the education field the Václav Havel Library also operates as a virtual community offering online educational resources accessible to schools in the Czech Republic and beyond. We make use of modern technology, in particular video, and work with noteworthy young personalities active Czech public life.

The Read Havel reading campaign

In 2018 the Václav Havel Library carried on with a reading project entitled Read Havel (www.cisthavl.cz and www.facebook.com/cisthavl), which familiarises introduces young people with Václav Havel as a literary figure by means of short videos. We introduced young readers to three of Václav Havel's presidential speeches, his essay The Power of the Powerless and two biographical texts mapping historic events: the ascent of communism in 1948, and normalisation in the 1970s.

Since its launch in 2017 the project has enjoyed great interest from schools and a positive response from the general public on social networks. Almost 120 elementary and secondary school teachers from throughout the CR are involved. Its Facebook profile has over 2,400 followers. The videos have garnered nearly 350,000 views. The Václav Havel Library is continuing the project in 2019.

MAN OF INSPIRATION: HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH THE LIFE AND WORK OF VÁCLAV HAVEL

In autumn 2018 the Václav Havel Library released the new online educational course Man of Inspiration (www.vaclavhavel.cz/elearning). Against the backdrop of Václav Havel's life story, young viewers are introduced to the key historical milestones of 20th century Czechoslovak history. The six-part series places an emphasis on the human rights struggle and the building

up of civic society following the Velvet Revolution. The course is targeted at secondary school and first year university students.

The series is filmed in a dynamic, YouTube style and combines moderators' spoken word with archival materials and the recollections of people who lived through those times, including former US secretary of state Madeleine Albright. The moderators of the Czech lessons are the singer and TV presenter Emma Smetana and the dancer Yemi. It is the first Václav Havel Library digital teaching material that is also available in an English version; it is presented by native speakers and is intended for an international audience, be it students focused on Central Europe and human rights issues or those interested in countries where human rights are a topical issue.

The project reached the final of the annual EDUINA 2018 prizes for innovative educational projects run by the organisation EDUin.

TOMORROW

The Václav Havel Library used a theatre-based educational project to mark the 100th anniversary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia, supporting schools' celebration of this historic event in a creative manner. On our invitation, around 20 school and amateur groups around the Czech Republic created productions of Václav Havel's play Tomorrow, performing it at schools or local arts centres during October 2018.



At the end all of the groups involved came together at the theatre Divadlo v Dlouhé. Over 270 pupils and teachers took part in the event which took the form of live and film excerpts from all of the amateur productions.

The project received a grant from the Czech Minister of Culture.

VH LITTLE LIBRARIES

The aim of this new project is to create a nationwide network of elementary and secondary schools that, with our support, actively disseminate the philosophical legacy of Václav Havel. Václav Havel Little Libraries contain the complete publications of the VHL (now counting over 60 titles) and are located in school libraries.

The project has its own logo and a uniform visual identity at all schools. The first seven schools acquired Václav Havel Little Libraries in 2018.

BEST STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION 2018

What kind of country do you dream of?

Václav Havel's essays, such as the *The Power of the Powerless* and *A Word About Words*, have become classic texts of Czech literature. The aim of the student competition is to cultivate the essay genre in the Czech language – not in the sense of imitating Václav Havel's writing, but in the spirit of his courage to name unpleasant problems and search for unconventional solutions to them.

The theme of the 10th edition was inspired by the centenary of Czechoslovakia's foundation and Václav Havel's first New Year's presidential address (1.1.1990). "You may ask what kind of republic I dream of. Let me reply: I dream of a republic independent, free, and democratic, of a republic economically prosperous and yet socially just; in short, of a humane republic that serves the individual and that therefore holds the hope that the individual will serve it in turn. Of a republic of well-rounded people, because without such people it is impossible to solve any of our problems – human, economic, ecological, social, or political."

In 2018 we received a total of 118 student essays from 39 schools in 10 regions of the Czech Republic, the highest number ever. The best work was selected by a five-member jury comprising:

translator Viktor Janiš
architekt Petr Hájek
literary critic Eva Klíčová

writer Natalie Kocábová
journalist Kateřina Šafaříková

Winners

1st place Marie FRYDLOVÁ, Ota Pavel Grammar School, Prague
2nd place misto Barbora KOLLAROVÁ, Jan Neruda Grammar School, Prague
3rd place Kateřina ŠVIHELOVÁ, Mensa Grammar School, Prague

The jury also presented two honorary prizes

Josef POLÁŠEK, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
Alžběta DUBINOVÁ, Grammar and Specialised Secondary School, Nová Paka

The award ceremony took place at the Václav Havel Library on 6 December and was attended by students and teachers from participating schools as well as jurors.

The project was supported for the third year by a grant from the Ministry of Culture of the CR.

HAVEL IN A NUTSHELL WORKSHOP

Within the Havel in a Nutshell interactive workshop for secondary school students and elementary school students from 2nd grade read and work with Havel texts, share their views on subjects close to Havel (e.g., dissent, conscience, the absurd) and connect them to their own experience. During the workshop instructor Nina Rutová employs a method of "critical thinking through reading and writing".

VÁCLAV HAVEL LIBRARY PERMANENT EXHIBITION

The permanent exhibition *Havel in a Nutshell* introduces visitors to the life of Václav Havel through a collage of photographs and quotations. Via detailed information and audio recordings, touch screens place individual chapters of his life – family, theatre, dissent and presidency – in the broader cultural and historical context. A large interactive map allows visitors to acquire a nuanced idea of Václav Havel's global, world "footprint". Within guided tours combined with workshops elementary school and secondary school groups are acquainted with the life and philosophy of Václav Havel.

VÁCLAV HAVEL HERE AND NOW

Are the ideas of the first post-1989 president still alive? Do they really have something to say today? How should we actually approach Václav Havel's legacy? And what role does the

Václav Havel Library play in promoting the life and work of one of the most important figures in Czech 20th century history?

A series of debates with the VH Library's executive director, Michael Žantovský, took place in the regions.

FEBRUARY

Liberec – Jeroným Grammar School, Regional Authority (lecture for teachers)

Domázlice – J. Š. Baar Grammar School

Prachatice – Prachatice Grammar School

MARCH

Olomouc – Palacký University

Kroměříž – Grammar School

Velké Pavlovice – Trkmanka Environmental Centre, Grammar School

Mikulov – Grammar and Specialised Secondary School

JUNE

Česká Lípa – Grammar School, Textile Printing Centre

SEPTEMBER

Třeboň – Grammar School

České Budějovice – Coworking Center

OCTOBER

Ostrava – 1st International School of Ostrava,

Ostrava Grammar School – Hladnov, Olga Havlová Grammar School

NOVEMBER

Moravské Budějovice – Grammar and Specialised Secondary School

Žďár nad Sázavou – Matěj Josef Sychra Library

Havličkova Borová – Elementary School

Třebíč – Catholic Grammar School

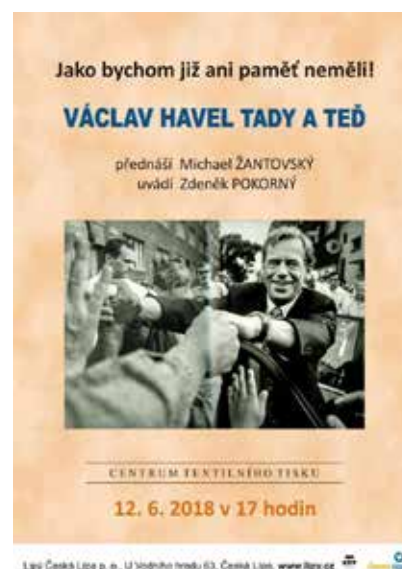
Horní Počernice – Theatre

DECEMBER

Nučice – Elementary School and Kindergarten



Emma Smetana and Yemi A. D., presenters of the Czech version of the e-learning miniseries *Man of Inspiration*.



Visits, Social Networks, Media

In 2018 we organised a total of 153 club events for the general public. Total attendance reached 10,416, meaning average attendance was 68 persons per event. The constantly high level of attendance is due to our efforts to continually improve our programme and to find new and topical subjects as well as ways to present them.

In addition we organised two major conferences: The Václav Havel European Dialogues, which was attended by close to 200 young people from throughout the Czech Republic, took place in the spring, while in the autumn a conference in honour of the laureate of the 2018 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize was attended by almost 450 people in total, including a subsequent concert.

On October 5 we presented our website's new design and address: www.Vaclavhavel.cz. The domain was provided to us free of charge by Vladimír Hanzel, a long-time friend and colleague of Václav Havel's. The website is now more modern and user friendly, which was reflected in visitor rates. Visitors to the site can make use of our monthly schedule, news, information on the Library's projects and video and photo documentation of individual events, as well as access to the Documentation Centre's online archive. Monthly visitor rates are around 10,000 individual visits.

The popular educational Read Havel project, targeted at young people, built on a wave of interest from the previous year. The project has its own website – www.cisthavl.cz – and Facebook profile, with individual videos within the campaign regularly receiving several thousand views. We mainly reached out to young people via charismatic figures popular among their generation. As well as names from the previous year (YouTuber Kovy, video personality Janek Rubeš, actress Anna Fialová, etc.) a number of others – including actors Ivan Trojan, Martin Myšička and Bára Poláková – got on board in 2018.

In our work communication is very important and we do our best to keep up with the latest trends. In 2018 we further

intensified our multimedia activities, with the Library for the most part taking care of this work itself. Video recordings of most events are made and posted on the Library's YouTube channel, while we also produce edited videos of our most noteworthy events and make teasers for our programmes. At the end of 2018 our YouTube channel had 126,000 views amounting to 1,300,000 minutes.

The Library was also active on social media. At the end of the year its Facebook profile had 31,000 followers (for comparison, at the end of 2017 the figure was 28,000). The Library had 5,1008 Twitter followers at the end of the year (compared to 4,138 at the end of 2017). Interest is also increasing on Instagram.

The Library sends out a weekly e-newsletter with the programme and occasional teasers for forthcoming events; people can register to receive it on the website. At the end of 2018 the total number of registered e-newsletter subscribers stood at 14,500.

The Václav Havel Library appeared in 810 articles and broadcasts in media monitored by the company Newton Media. As is traditional the greatest interest was devoted to the 2018 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize. The statistics indicate that a great deal of information has migrated from monitored media outlets to social networks (see above).

Financial Reports

Expenditures 2018

(in thousands CZK)

Documentation Centr	3 745
Publications	2 629
World of Václav Havel	765
Václav Havel European Dialogues	542
Václav Havel Prize	615
Club 4	489
Education	2 115
Hey, it's Havel	42
Administration and overheads	3 239

TOTAL **18 181**

Overview of trend in overall expenditures

2010	7 553
2011	10 952
2012	14 423
2013	17 877
2014	17 881
2015	17 369
2016	19 684
2017	18 518
2018	18 181

Incomes from donations, grants and own activities 2018

Revenues from own activities	
Revenues from sales of own products (books, postcards, posters, commissions)	1 080
Sale of services	1 117
Interest and differences in exchange rates	46
Other revenues	23

TOTAL **2 266**

Financial donations received 2018

Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala	11 700
VHLF	289
Prague Airport	300
VŠEM	200
P3CHEM s.r.o.	155
Jiří Kejval	120
Other donors	271

TOTAL **13 035**

Grants used in 2018

State Culture Fund – VH Interviews Prior to 1989	20
City of Prague – club programme	600
Czech Ministry of Culture – literary evenings	399
Czech Ministry of Culture – essay competition	40
Czech Ministry of Culture – Lets rock!	70
City of Prague – individual targeted grant – We Are Not Alone	200
Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs – VH Human Rights Prize	200
Embassy of the U.S. in CR – e-learning programme	50
Embassy of the U.S. in CT – American Relief Administration in Czechoslovakia	139

TOTAL **1 718**

Fundraising and Own Revenues

In 2018 the Václav Havel Library intensified its efforts to diversify its financial resources within all of its areas of revenue.

The main source of finance in 2018 was long-term support for programmes and operations provided by the Fondation Zdeněk et Michaela Bakala. The foundation reduced its contribution in 2018 by CZK 0.8 million to CZK 11.7 million year-on-year. By contrast, there was an increase in the amount acquired in the form of donations from small donors, which climbed to CZK 1,269 thousand (compared to CZK 1,186 thousand in 2017).

The Václav Havel Library enjoyed success with a number of grant applications in 2018. The City of Prague provided a total of CZK 600 thousand for its club programme in the form of an arts grant. This allowed for a major intensification of the VH Library's public programme in 2018. Alongside a grant for year-round club activities, the City of Prague also provided an individual targeted grant of CZK 200 thousand to support the project *We Are Not Alone*, via which the Library invited surviving participants in protests against the 1968 invasion from Eastern European countries to Prague, in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

The Library received a grant of CZK 399 thousand for evenings devoted to literature from the coffers of the Czech Ministry of Culture. That was used to extend the range of evenings focused on the literary genre. Support of CZK 70 thousand from the Ministry of Culture enabled the Library to carry out the student project *Tomorrow*, which was a playful celebration of Czechoslovakia's centenary (www.vaclavhavel.cz/cs/vzdelavani/zitra-to-spustime).

As every year the Ministry of Culture made a contribution, of CZK 40 thousand toward the latest edition of the annual Best Student Essay competition, which the Václav Havel Library runs for secondary schools throughout the Czech Republic. In 2018 the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided a grant of CZK 200 thousand toward an international conference in honour of the laureate of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize. The Embassy of the U.S. in Prague supported the project *American Relief Administration in Czechoslovakia*, which highlighted the U.S.'s financial aid toward the new Czechoslovak state

a century earlier, with CZK 139 thousand. Last but not least, the State Culture Fund provided support of CZK 90 thousand (of which CZK 20 thousand was used in 2018) toward the Student Line publication of selected VH plays (due for release in 2019). In 2018 the Václav Havel Library completed the long-running e-learning educational programme *Man of Inspiration: Human Rights Through the Life and Work of Václav Havel*. The project is targeted at older school pupils and secondary school and university students and has been prepared in both Czech and English versions. It was launched in 2016 with the help of a generous CZK 885 thousand grant from the U.S. foundation the Rockefeller Brothers Fund in 2016 and 2017. The Embassy of the U.S. in Prague also supported the project in 2017–2018 with a grant of USD 10 thousand (CZK 212 thousand). In 2018 the remaining CZK 50 thousand of the grant from the U.S. Embassy was used and the project was launched.

The most significant individual private donors in 2018 were the company Letiště Prague, the Václav Havel Library Foundation, Vysoká škola ekonomie a managementu v Praze (VŠEM) and the company P3CHEM.

Revenues from our own activities climbed to CZK 2,265 thousand in 2018 (up from CZK 2,225 thousand in 2017). Revenues from the sales of our own products, mainly books, amounted to CZK 1,080 thousand (compared to CZK 1,224 thousand in 2017). The VHL published the complete memoirs of Václav Maria Havel, the father of Václav Havel, under the title *Mé vzpomínky (My Memoirs)* in autumn 2018; almost the entire print run of 2,000 pcs had sold out by the end of the year and the book was the biggest single contributor to sales.

The Library acquired significant revenues in 2018 via institutional cooperation. The project *Václav Havel European Dialogues*, as in all previous years, was supported by the Representation of the European Commission in Prague; it also received backing for the third year from the company Sekyra Group.

Auditor's report and financial statements as of 31 December 2018.



Auditor's Report and Financial Statements as of 31 December 2018

BALANCE SHEET

BALANCE SHEET by 504/2002 Sb. amended in 2016

Business name

Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.
Ostrovní 129/13

Registered office

Praha 1
11000

as at **31.12.2018**

in thousands CZK

ID no.	2	7	1	6	9	4	1	3
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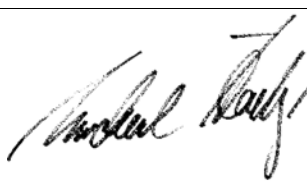
Seal

Ident.	ASSETS	line	Accounting period		
			at the first day	balance at the last day	
A.	Fixed assets	A.I.+...+A.IV.	001	+2,261	+2,014
A. I.	Intangible assets	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	002	+2,369	+2,426
A. I. 1.	Research and development	účet 012	003		
2.	Software	účet 013	004	+825	+825
3.	Valuable rights (patents, copyrights, trademarks and brands)	účet 014	005		
4.	Low-value intangible fixed assets	účet 018	006		
5.	Other intangibles	účet 019	007	+1,544	+1,601
6.	Intangible assets under construction	účet 041	008		
7.	Advances for intangible assets	účet 051	009		
A. II.	Tangible fixed assets	A.II.1+...+A.II.x	010	+2,266	+2,267
A. II. 1.	Land	účet 031	011		
2.	Artworks and collections	účet 032	012	+1,277	+1,277
3.	Buildings and structures	účet 021	013		
4.	Machinery, equipment, vehicles, fixtures and fittings	účet 022	014	+989	+990
5.	Orchards and vineyards	účet 025	015		
6.	Livestock (herd and draught animals)	účet 026	016		
7.	Low-value fixed assets	účet 028	017		
8.	Other tangible fixed assets	účet 029	018		
9.	Tangible fixed assets under construction	účet 042	019		
10.	Advances for tangible fixed assets	účet 052	020		
A. III.	Financial assets	A.III.1+...+A.III.x	021		
A. III. 1.	Investments in subsidiaries	účet 061	022		
2.	Investments in associates	účet 062	023		
3.	Bonds, debentures and similar securities held until maturity	účet 063	024		
4.	Loans to organisations teams	účet 066	025		
5.	Other long-term loans	účet 067	026		
6.	Other financial assets	účet 069	027		
A. IV.	Accumulated depreciations of long term property total	A.IV.1+...+A.IV.x	028	-2,374	-2,679
A. IV. 1.	Depreciations to immaterial results of sciene survey	účet 072	029		
2.	Accumulated depreciations of software	účet 073	030	-825	-825
3.	Accumulated depreciations of valuable rights	účet 074	031		
4.	Accumulated depreciations of long - term immaterial property	účet 078	032		
5.	Accumulated depreciations of other long - term property	účet 079	033	-708	-975
6.	Accumulated depreciations of buildings	účet 081	034		
7.	Accumulated depreciations of movable assets and sets of movable assets	účet 082	035	-841	-879
8.	Accumulated depreciations of cultivated areas	účet 085	036		
9.	Accumulated depreciations of lifestock	účet 086	037		
10.	Accumulated depreciations of small long - term property	účet 088	038		
11.	Accumulated depreciations of other long term property	účet 089	039		
B.	Short-term property total	B.I.+...+B.IV.	040	+5,478	+4,597
B. I.	Inventory	B.I.1+...+B.I.x	041	+2,708	+2,683
B. I. 1.	Materials in store	účet 112	042		
2.	Materials in transit	účet 119	043		

Ident.	ASSETS	line	Accounting period		
			at the first day	balance at the last day	
3.	Work-in-progress	účet 121	044	+155	+74
4.	Semi-finished products	účet 122	045		
5.	Finished products	účet 123	046	+2,411	+2,469
6.	Livestock (herd and draught animals)	účet 124	047		
7.	Merchandise in store	účet 132	048	+142	+140
8.	Merchandise in transit	účet 139	049		
9.	Advance payments for inventory	účet 314	050		
B. II.	Receivables total	B.II.1+...+B.II.x	051	+856	+956
B. II. 1.	Customers	účet 311	052	+159	+386
2.	Bills of exchange to be collected	účet 312	053		
3.	Receivables for discounted securities	účet 313	054		
4.	Advance payments made	účet 314 - F. 51	055	+685	+554
5.	Other receivables	účet 315	056		
6.	Receivables from employees	účet 335	057		+3
7.	Receivables from social security and health insurance institutions	účet 336	058		
8.	Income taxes	účet 341	059		+7
9.	Other direct taxes	účet 342	060		
10.	Value added tax	účet 343	061	+2	
11.	Other taxes and fees	účet 345	062		
12.	Subsidies receivable from state budget	účet 346	063		
13.	Subsidies receivable from self-governing local area's budgets	účet 348	064		
14.	Receivables from participants in an association	účet 358	065		
15.	Receivables from fixed-term financial transactions	účet 373	066		
16.	Receivables from issued bonds	účet 375	067		
17.	Sundry receivables	účet 378	068		
18.	Estimated receivables	účet 388	069	+10	+6
19.	Depreciations to receivables	účet 391	070		
B. III.	Short-term financial assets total	B.III.1+...+B.III.x	071	+1,570	+646
B. III. 1.	Cash on hand	účet 211	072	+39	+12
2.	Stamps and vouchers	účet 213	073		+13
3.	Bank accounts	účet 221	074	+1,531	+621
4.	Shares and similar securities for trading	účet 251	075		
5.	Bonds, debentures and similar securities for trading	účet 253	076		
6.	Other bonds, debentures and securities	účet 256	077		
7.	Cash in transit	účet 261	078		
B. IV.	Other assets total	B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x	079	+344	+312
B. IV. 1.	Deferred expenses	účet 381	080	+344	+312
2.	Accrued revenue	účet 385	081		
	TOTAL ASSETS	A.+B.	082	+7,739	+6,611

Ident.	LIABILITIES	line	Accounting period		
			at the first day	balance at the last day	
A.	Own resources	A.I.+...+A.II.	001	+1,486	+126
A. I.	Equity	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	002	+1,486	+126
A. I. 1.	Own equity	účet 901	003	+66	+66
2.	Funds	účet 911	004	+1,420	+60
3.	Gains or losses from revaluation of assets and liabilities	účet 921	005		
A. II.	Profit or loss	A.II.1+...+A.II.x	006	+0	+0
A. II. 1.	Profit and loss account	účet +/-963	007	xxxxxxxxxxxx	+0
2.	Profit or loss to be approved	účet +/-931	008		xxxxxxxxxxxx
3.	Retained earnings, accumulated losses from previous years	účet +/-932	009		
B.	Not-own capital total	B.I.+...+B.IV.	010	+6,253	+6,485
B. I.	Reserves Total	B.I.1+...+B.I.x	011		
B. I. 1.	Reserves	účet 941	012		
B. II.	Long - term payables total	B.II.1+...+B.II.x	013	+3,744	+3,744
B. II. 1.	Long-term bank loans	účet 951	014		
2.	Own bonds issued	účet 953	015		
3.	Payables of lease	účet 954	016		
4.	Long-term advances received	účet 955	017		
5.	Long-term bills of exchange to be paid	účet 958	018		
6.	Estimated payables	účet 389	019		
7.	Other long-term payables	účet 959	020	+3,744	+3,744
B. III.	Short-term payables	B.III.1+...+B.III.x	021	+2,318	+2,671
B. III. 1.	Suppliers	účet 321	022	+478	+688
2.	Bills of exchange to be paid	účet 322	023		
3.	Advance payments received	účet 324	024		

Ident.	LIABILITIES	line	Accounting period		
			at the first day	balance at the last day	
4.	Other payables	účet 325	025	+301	+302
5.	Employees	účet 331	026	+382	+433
6.	Other payables to employees	účet 333	027		+1
7.	Payables to social security and health insurance	účet 336	028	+202	+396
8.	Income taxes	účet 341	029	+33	
9.	Other direct taxes	účet 342	030	+64	+163
10.	Value added tax	účet 343	031		+22
11.	Other taxes and fees	účet 345	032		
12.	Payables to state budget	účet 346	033		+98
13.	Payables to self-government local area's budgets	účet 348	034		
14.	Payables for unpaid subscribed shares and participations	účet 367	035		
15.	Payables to participants in association	účet 368	036		
16.	Payables to fixed-term financial transactions	účet 373	037		
17.	Sundry payables	účet 379	038	+94	+18
18.	Short-term bank loans	účet 231	039		
19.	Credits for discounted securities	účet 232	040		
20.	Short-term bonds issued	účet 241	041		
21.	Own bonds issued	účet 255	042		
22.	Estimated payables	účet 389	043	+764	+550
23.	Other short-term financial assistance	účet 249	044		
B. IV.	Other liabilities	B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x	045	+191	+70
B. IV. 1.	Accrued expenses	účet 383	046	+1	
2.	Deferred revenue	účet 384	047	+190	+70
	LIABILITIES	A.+B.	048	+7,739	+6,611

Date of compilation 21.6.2019	Signature of statutory body
Legal form	
Entrepreneurial activity	

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT by 504/2002 Sb. amended in

Business name

Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.
Ostrovní 129/13

as at **31.12.2018**

From: **1.1.2018** To: **31.12.2018**

in thousands CZK

Registered office


Praha 1
11000

ID no.	2	7	1	6	9	4	1	3
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Seal

Ident.	PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT	line	Accounting period		
			Main	Business	Total
A.	Expenses	A.I.+...+A.VIII.	+18,181		+18,181
A. I.	Consumed spendings total	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	+9,271		+9,271
A. I. 1.	Consumed materials, energy consumption, consumption of other non-inventory items	účetv 501, 502, 503	+287		+287
2.	Merchandise sold	účet 504	+4		+4
3.	Repairs and maintenance	účet 511	+21		+21
4.	Travelling expenses	účet 512	+259		+259
5.	Representation expenses	účet 513	+297		+297
6.	Other services	účet 518	+8,403		+8,403
A. II.	Change in work-in-progress and activation	A.II.1+...+A.II.x	-126		-126
A. II. 7.	Change in work-in-progress	účetv 561, 562, 563, 564	-126		-126
8.	Aktivation of material, goods and internal services	účetv 571, 572			
9.	Aktivation of intangibles	účetv 573, 574			
A. III.	Personal expenses total	A.III.1+...+A.III.x	+8,530		+8,530
A. III. 10.	Wages and salaries	účet 521	+6,435		+6,435
11.	Legal social insurance	účet 524	+2,095		+2,095
12.	Other social insurance	účet 525			
13.	Legal social security expenses	účet 527			
14.	Other social security expenses	účet 528			
A. IV.	Taxes total	A.IV.1+...+A.IV.x	+1		+1
A. IV. 15.	Taxes total	účetv 531, 532, 538	+1		+1
A. V.	Other expenses total	A.V.1+...+A.V.x	+104		+104
A. V. 16.	Contractual fines, interest on late payments, other fines and penalties	účetv 541, 542			
17.	Write-off of receivables	účet 543	+6		+6
18.	Interest expense	účet 544			
19.	Foreign exchange losses	účet 545	+40		+40
20.	Gifts	účet 546			
21.	Shortages and damage	účet 548	+1		+1
22.	Other expenses	účet 549	+57		+57
A. VI.	Depreciations, sold property, additions to reserves total	A.VI.1+...+A.VI.x	+395		+395
A. VI. 23.	Depreciation expenses of intangible and tangible fixed assets	účet 551	+395		+395
24.	Net book value of intangible and tangible fixed assets sold	účet 552			
25.	Shares and ownership interests sold	účet 553			
26.	Materials sold	účet 554			
27.	Additions to reserves and provisions	účetv 556, 559			
A. VII.	Membership fees total	A.VII.1+...+A.VII.x			
A. VII. 28.	Membership fees and operating contributions paid to branch	účetv 581, 582			
A. VIII.	Income tax	A.VIII.1+...+A.VIII.x	+6		+6
A. VIII. 29.	Income tax	účet 591	+6		+6
	Expenses Total		+18,181		+18,181
B.	Revenues		+17,751	+430	+18,181
B. I.	Operating subsidies	B.I.1+...+B.I.x	+1,718		+1,718
B. I. 1.	Operating subsidies	účet 691	+1,718		+1,718
B. II.	Accepted contributions total	B.II.1+...+B.II.x			
B. II. 2.	Received operating contributions	účet 681			
3.	Received donations	účet 682			
4.	Received membership fees	účet 684			
B. III.	Revenues from own efficient	účetv 601, 602, 603	+1,767	+430	+2,197

Ident.	PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT	line	Accounting period			
			Main	Business	Total	
B. IV.	Other revenues total	B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x	048	+14,266		+14,266
B. IV. 5.	Contractual fines, interest on late payments and other fines and penalties	účetv 641, 642	049			
6.	Revenue from written-off receivables	účet 643	050			
7.	Interest	účet 644	051	+1		+1
8.	Foreign exchange gains	účet 645	052	+46		+46
9.	Accounting for funds	účet 648	053	+14,197		+14,197
10.	Other revenues	účet 649	054	+22		+22
B. V.	Revenues from sales of property	B.V.1+...+B.V.x	055			
B. V. 11.	Revenues from sales of intangible and tangible fixed assets	účet 652	056			
12.	Revenues from sale of shares and ownership interests	účet 653	057			
13.	Revenues from sales of materials	účet 654	058			
14.	Revenues from short-term financial assets	účet 655	059			
15.	Revenues from long-term financial assets	účet 657	060			
	Total revenues		061	+17,751	+430	+18,181
C.	Profit (loss) before taxation (r. 63 - 33)	B. - A.I.1-...-A.VII.x + C. x.	062	-424	+430	+6
D.	Profit (loss) after taxation	B. - A. + D. x.	063	-430	+430	+0

Date of compilation: 21.6.2019	Signature of statutory body
Legal form	
Entrepreneurial activity	

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

1. Characteristics and main activities

The establishment and characteristics of the company

Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. (“the Company” or “The Vaclav Havel Library”) was established on 26 July 2004 by registration in the Commercial Register kept by the Municipal Court in Prague, section O, insert 338.

The main purpose of the Company is archive, research, documentary and library activities focused on the works of Vaclav Havel and documents or items associated with his activities, expert analysis thereof, and the related educational and popularising activities.

Company’s registered office

Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.
Ostrovní 129/13, Nové Město
110 00 Praha 1
Czech Republic

Company registration number

271 69 413

Members of the Board of Trustees as of 31 December 2018

Gabriel Eichler (chairman)
Michaela Bakala (vice-chairwoman)
Dagmar Havlová
Božena Jirků
Martin Palouš
Jacques Rupnik
Nina Smitová
Iva Brožová
Milan Šimečka

The statutory body of the Company is the Executive Director Mr Michael Žantovský.

Members of the Supervisory Board as of 31 December 2018

Luděk Niedermayer
Emil Holub
Ondřej Jonáš

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

Company founders

Dagmar Havlová

Miloslav Petrussek

Karel Schwarzenberg

Upon establishing, the Company founders pledged investment contributions at a total amount of TCZK 3. These investment contributions have been paid in full and are not entered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies.

Changes in the Register of Public Benefit Companies

In 2018 there were no changes in the Register of Public Benefit Companies.

2. Fundamental accounting policies applied by the Company

- (a) The method of processing accounting records and the method and place of their storage.

Account keeping is outsourced to VGD, s.r.o. using the Byznys VR software system. The accounting documents are stored with the aforementioned accountants.

- (b) Fixed tangible and intangible assets

Fixed tangible and intangible assets are recorded at their acquisition price. Fixed tangible assets with the acquisition price of up to TCZK 40 and fixed intangible assets of up to TCZK 60 are not recorded in the balance sheet and are expensed in the years of acquisition.

The following table sets out depreciation method and periods by asset groups:

Assets	Method	Period
Office equipment, furniture	Linear	3 years
Software	Linear	5 years
Other intangible assets	Linear	6 years

- (c) Conversion of foreign currencies

When converting foreign currencies, the Company uses the Czech National Bank's daily exchange rate. Only realised currency gains and losses are carried in the course of the year.

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are converted as of the balance sheet day according to the foreign exchange market rate published by the Czech National Bank. Unrealised foreign exchange gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss.

(d) Inventory

Unfinished products and finished products (books) include material, payroll and other direct costs. Cost is determined using the weighted average.

The goods are valued at acquisition prices. The acquisition price includes the price of acquisition and any secondary acquisition costs (e.g. transport). Cost is determined using the weighted average.

Books acquired for the library's archive are recorded off the balance sheet and expensed over a period of 5 years.

(e) Received and provided gifts

The Company carries the funds received on the basis of deeds of gifts on the Funds account, from which the finances received are charged in the following manner depending on the nature of their utilisation:

- in the Profit and Loss account, for the benefit of the Fund Accounting account up to the amount of costs expended on the individual projects (centres) or on operating activities in the relevant accounting period;

- in a bank account in the event of provision of funds for third-party projects selected as part of the Company's various projects.

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

3. Fixed assets

(a) Intangible assets

	Software	Other intangibles	Total 2018	Total 2017
Acquisition price				
Balance as at 1.1.	825	1 544	2 369	2 369
Additions	--	57	57	--
Disposals	--	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--	--
Balance as at 31.12.	825	1 601	2 426	2 369
Accumulated depreciations				
Balance as at 1.1.	825	708	1 533	1 269
Depreciation expense	--	267	267	264
Disposals	--	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--	--
Balance as at 31.12.	825	975	1 800	1 533
Net book value as at 1.1.	--	836	836	1 100
Net book value as at 31.12.	--	626	626	836

(b) Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment, furniture	Artworks and collections	Total 2018	Total 2017
Acquisition price				
Balance as at 1.1.	989	1 277	2 266	2 748
Additions	91	--	91	47
Disposals	-90	--	-90	-529
Transfers	--	--	--	--
Balance as at 31.12.	990	1 277	2 267	2 266
Accumulated depreciations				
Balance as at 1.1.	841	--	841	1 225
Depreciation expenses	128	--	128	145
Disposals	-90	--	-90	-529
Transfers	--	--	--	--
Balance as at 31.12.	879	--	879	841
Net book value as at 1.1.	148	1 277	1 425	1 523
Net book value as at 31.12.	111	1 277	1 388	1 425

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

4. Bank accounts

Funds are held in current accounts denominated in the CZK, USD and EUR currencies. The balance in bank accounts as of 31 December 2018 is TCZK 621 (2017 – TCZK 1 531).

5. Receivables and liabilities

(a) Receivables

Receivables amount to a total TCZK 956 (2017 – TCZK 856), of which TCZK 42 is overdue (2017 – TCZK 82). Operating advances represent advances for lease related services in a total amount TCZK 283 (2017 – TCZK 394) and a principal to the rent in a total amount of TCZK 271 (2017 – TCZK 271).

(b) Liabilities

Short-term liabilities amount to a total of TCZK 2 671 (2017 – TCZK 2 318), of which TCZK 302 (2017 – TCZK 24) is overdue.

The Company records a long-term liability as of 31 December 2018 based on an interest-free loan of TCZK 3 744 (2017 – TCZK 3 744) provided to the Company in January 2011 for operational purposes, which is due by 10 January 2020 at the latest.

6. Deferred expenses

Deferred expenses total TCZK 312 (2017 – TCZK 344) and represent primarily the deferred cost of the insurance costs, rent and film production.

7. Inventory

The inventory of finished products as of 31 December 2018 totals TCZK 2 469 (2017 – TCZK 2 411) and consists of the stock of the library's own book production.

The inventory of goods as of 31 December 2018 totals TCZK 140 (2017 – TCZK 142) and represents the stock of books and DVDs intended for sale as part of the "Vaclav Havel in a Nutshell" exposition.

The work-in-progress as of 31 December 2018 totals TCZK 74 (2017 – TCZK 155) and represents unfinished books from own production.

As of 31 December 2018 the total amount of inventory not posted in the balance sheet was TCZK 1 101 (2017 – TCZK 1 141), of which TCZK 91 (2017 – TCZK 131) was attributable to other parties' goods in consignment sale, borrowed books represented TCZK 460 (2017 – TCZK 460) and books registered in the archive amounted to TCZK 550 (2017 – TCZK 550).

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

8. Own resources

	Own equity	Funds	Retained earnings	Profit and loss account	Total
Balance as at 1.1.2018	66	1 420	--	--	1 486
Transfer of profits	--	--	--	--	--
Donations received	--	13 035	--	--	13 035
Donations provided	--	-198	--	--	-198
Change in funds balance	--	-14 197	--	--	-14 197
Profit of 2018	--	--	--	--	--
Balance as at 31.12.2018	66	60	--	--	126

9. Employees and executives

Average number of employees and personnel costs in 2018 and 2017:

	Average number of employees	Wages and salaries	Social security and health insurance expenses	Social expenses
2018				
Employees	10	6 435	2 095	--
2017				
Employees	10	6 295	2 007	--

10. Rewards and loans to statutory, boards and other members

During 2018 and 2017 company paid bonuses to the statutory body arising from the post, these costs are reflected in the personnel costs. No rewards or loans were paid or provided to the members of the Board of Trustees and Supervisory Board in 2018 and 2017. No contracts binding the Company to pay out any benefits in the case of the termination of the activities of individual members of the statutory and supervisory bodies were concluded either in 2018 and 2017.

11. Payables to social security and health insurance

Payables to social security and health insurance amount to TCZK 396 (2017 – TCZK 202), of which TCZK 276 (2017 – TCZK 139) is attributable to social liabilities, and TCZK 120 (2017 – TCZK 63) is attributable to health insurance liabilities. None of the above liabilities are overdue.

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

12. Other direct taxes and subsidies

Other direct taxes representing advances for natural person income tax amount to TCZK 163 (2017 – TCZK 64). None of the above liabilities are overdue.

In 2018 the Company consumed subsidies in total amount TCZ 1 718 (2017 – TCZK 2 138), of which TCZK 1 529 (2017 – TCZK 646) are represented by the state subsidies and remaining TCZK 189 (2017 – TCZK 1 492) from other donors.

13. Deferred revenues

In 2018 the Company received subsidies and grants in total amount TCZK 1 788 (2017 – TCZK 2 384), of which TCZK 70 (2017 – TCZK 190) will be consumed in 2019; the amount is reflected in position Deferred revenues.

14. Information on the Company's projects

As in the previous period, the Company organised a number of public and club meetings in 2018. The “Vaclav Havel in a Nutshell” exhibition in Ostrovní street in Prague's New Town is open to public.

All the Company's activities are described in detail in the Annual Report. All of the received and provided gifts are listed in the Annual Report as well.

15. Information on the rewards to the statutory auditors

Total rewards received by the auditor total TCZK 1 (2017 – TCZK 1) and represent statutory audit fees of the financial statements.

16. Income tax

The Company reported tax liability from its activities subject to the corporate income tax TCZK 6 (2017 – TCZK 33).

The provisions of the Law on Income Taxes were employed in the calculation of corporate income tax and the tax base was reduced by TCZK 300 (in 2017 – TZCK 300) under paragraph 20, article 7.

Savings on tax liability made through the utilisation of tax relief in 2017, amounting to TCZK 57, went toward the organisation's central activities in 2018. Savings on tax liability for 2018, which will be used next year, amount to TCZK 57.

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to financial statements

Year ended on 31 December 2018
(in thousands of CZK)

17. Administrative costs

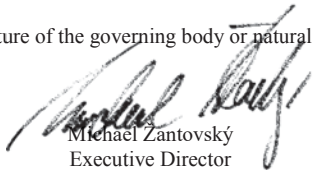
The Company's administrative costs for 2018 total TCZK 3 239 (2017 – TCZK 2 924).
Their structure is as follows:

2018	Total costs	Of which administrative costs
Consumed purchases and services	9 271	1 447
Change in work-in-progress and activation	-126	--
Personnel expenses	8 530	1 678
Taxes and fees	1	1
Other expenses	104	89
Depreciation, assets sold, creation of provisions and adjustment	395	18
Corporate income tax	6	6
Total	18 181	3 239

2017	Total costs	Of which administrative costs
Consumed purchases and services	9 212	1 163
Change in work-in-progress and activation	123	--
Personnel expenses	8 302	1 494
Taxes and fees	1	1
Other expenses	438	227
Depreciation, assets sold, creation of provisions and adjustment	409	6
Corporate income tax	33	33
Total	18 518	2 924

18. Material subsequent event

The company is not aware of any events that have occurred since the balance sheet date that would have any material impact on the financial statements as at 31st December 2018.

Datum: 21 June 2019	Signature of the governing body or natural person which is an accounting unit:  Michael Zantovský Executive Director
------------------------	--



KPMG Česká republika Audit, s.r.o.

Pobřežní 1a
186 00 Praha 8
Česká republika
+420 222 123 111
www.kpmg.cz

Zpráva nezávislého auditora pro dozorčí radu společnosti Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.

Výrok auditora

Provedli jsme audit přiložené účetní závěrky společnosti Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. (dále také „Účetní jednotka“) sestavené na základě českých účetních předpisů, která se skládá z rozvahy k 31. prosinci 2018, výkazu zisku a ztráty za rok končící 31. prosincem 2018 a přílohy v účetní závěrce, která obsahuje popis použitých podstatných účetních metod a další vysvětlující informace. Údaje o Účetní jednotce jsou uvedeny v bodě 1 přílohy v této účetní závěrce.

Podle našeho názoru přiložená účetní závěrka podává věrný a poctivý obraz aktiv a pasiv Účetní jednotky k 31. prosinci 2018 a nákladů a výnosů a výsledku jejího hospodaření za rok končící 31. prosincem 2018 v souladu s českými účetními předpisy.

Základ pro výrok

Audit jsme provedli v souladu se zákonem o auditorech a standardy Komory auditorů České republiky pro audit, kterými jsou mezinárodní standardy pro audit (ISA) případně doplněné a upravené souvisejícími aplikačními doložkami. Naše odpovědnost stanovená těmito předpisy je podrobněji popsána v oddílu Odpovědnost auditora za audit účetní závěrky. V souladu se zákonem o auditorech a Etickým kodexem přijatým Komorou auditorů České republiky jsme na Účetní jednotce nezávislí a splnili jsme i další etické povinnosti vyplývající z uvedených předpisů. Domníváme se, že důkazní informace, které jsme shromáždili, poskytují dostatečný a vhodný základ pro vyjádření našeho výroku.

Ostatní informace

Ostatními informacemi jsou v souladu s § 2 písm. b) zákona o auditorech informace uvedené ve výroční zprávě mimo účetní závěrku a naši zprávu auditora. Za ostatní informace odpovídá statutární orgán Účetní jednotky.

Náš výrok k účetní závěrce se k ostatním informacím nevztahuje. Přesto je však součástí našich povinností souvisejících s auditem účetní závěrky seznámení se s ostatními informacemi a posouzení, zda ostatní informace nejsou ve významném (materiálním) nesouladu s účetní závěrkou či s našimi znalostmi o Účetní jednotce získanými během auditu účetní závěrky nebo zda se jinak tyto informace nejeví jako významně (materiálně) nesprávné.

Na základě provedených postupů, do míry, již dokážeme posoudit, uvádíme, že ostatní informace, které popisují skutečnosti, jež jsou též předmětem zobrazení v účetní závěrce, jsou ve všech významných (materiálních) ohledech v souladu s účetní závěrkou.



Dále jsme povinni uvést, zda na základě poznatků a povědomí o Účetní jednotce, k nimž jsme dospěli při provádění auditu, ostatní informace neobsahují významné (materiální) věcné nesprávnosti. V rámci uvedených postupů jsme v obdržných ostatních informacích žádné významné (materiální) věcné nesprávnosti nezjistili.

Odovědnost statutárního orgánu Účetní jednotky za účetní závěrku

Statutární orgán Účetní jednotky odpovídá za sestavení účetní závěrky podávající věrný a poctivý obraz v souladu s českými účetními předpisy a za takový vnitřní kontrolní systém, který považuje za nezbytný pro sestavení účetní závěrky tak, aby neobsahovala významné (materiální) nesprávnosti způsobené podvodem nebo chybou.

Při sestavování účetní závěrky je statutární orgán Účetní jednotky povinen posoudit, zda je Účetní jednotka schopna nepřetržitě trvat, a pokud je to relevantní, popsat v příloze v účetní závěrce záležitosti týkající se jejího nepřetržitého trvání a použití předpokladu nepřetržitého trvání při sestavení účetní závěrky, s výjimkou případů, kdy statutární orgán plánuje zrušení Účetní jednotky nebo ukončení její činnosti, resp. kdy nemá jinou reálnou možnost, než tak učinit.

Odovědnost auditora za audit účetní závěrky

Naším cílem je získat přiměřenou jistotu, že účetní závěrka jako celek neobsahuje významnou (materiální) nesprávnost způsobenou podvodem nebo chybou a vydat zprávu auditora obsahující náš výrok. Přiměřená míra jistoty je velká míra jistoty, nicméně není zárukou, že audit provedený v souladu s výše uvedenými předpisy ve všech případech v účetní závěrce odhalí případnou existující významnou (materiální) nesprávnost. Nesprávnosti mohou vznikat v důsledku podvodů nebo chyb a považují se za významné (materiální), pokud lze reálně předpokládat, že by jednotlivě nebo v souhrnu mohly ovlivnit ekonomická rozhodnutí, která uživatelé účetní závěrky na jejím základě přijmou.

Při provádění auditu v souladu s výše uvedenými předpisy je naší povinností uplatňovat během celého auditu odborný úsudek a zachovávat profesní skepticismus. Dále je naší povinností:

- Identifikovat a vyhodnotit rizika významné (materiální) nesprávnosti účetní závěrky způsobené podvodem nebo chybou, navrhnout a provést auditorské postupy reagující na tato rizika a získat dostatečné a vhodné důkazní informace, abychom na jejich základě mohli vyjádřit výrok. Riziko, že neodhalíme významnou (materiální) nesprávnost, k níž došlo v důsledku podvodu, je větší než riziko neodhalení významné (materiální) nesprávnosti způsobené chybou, protože součástí podvodu mohou být tajné dohody (koluze), falšování, úmyslná opomenutí, nepravdivá prohlášení nebo obcházení vnitřních kontrol.
- Seznámit se s vnitřním kontrolním systémem Účetní jednotky relevantním pro audit v takovém rozsahu, abychom mohli navrhnout auditorské postupy vhodné s ohledem na dané okolnosti, nikoli abychom mohli vyjádřit názor na účinnost jejího vnitřního kontrolního systému.
- Posoudit vhodnost použitých účetních pravidel, přiměřenost provedených účetních odhadů a informace, které v této souvislosti statutární orgán Účetní jednotky uvedl v příloze v účetní závěrce.
- Posoudit vhodnost použití předpokladu nepřetržitého trvání při sestavení účetní závěrky statutárním orgánem a to, zda s ohledem na shromážděné důkazní informace existuje významná (materiální) nejistota vyplývající z událostí nebo podmínek, které mohou významně zpochybnit schopnost Účetní jednotky



nepřetržitě trvat. Jestliže dojdeme k závěru, že taková významná (materiální) nejistota existuje, je naší povinností upozornit v naší zprávě na informace uvedené v této souvislosti v příloze v účetní závěrce, a pokud tyto informace nejsou dostatečné, vyjádřit modifikovaný výrok. Naše závěry týkající se schopnosti Účetní jednotky nepřetržitě trvat vycházejí z důkazních informací, které jsme získali do data naší zprávy. Nicméně budoucí události nebo podmínky mohou vést k tomu, že Účetní jednotka ztratí schopnost nepřetržitě trvat.

- Vyhodnotit celkovou prezentaci, členění a obsah účetní závěrky, včetně přílohy, a dále to, zda účetní závěrka zobrazuje podkladové transakce a události způsobem, který vede k věrnému zobrazení.

Naší povinností je informovat osoby pověřené správou a řízením mimo jiné o plánovaném rozsahu a načasování auditu a o významných zjištěních, která jsme v jeho průběhu učinili, včetně zjištěných významných nedostatků ve vnitřním kontrolním systému.

Statutární auditor odpovědný za zakázku

Ing. Petr Škoda je statutárním auditorem odpovědným za audit účetní závěrky společnosti Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. k 31. prosinci 2018, na jehož základě byla zpracována tato zpráva nezávislého auditora.

V Praze, dne 21. června 2019

KPMG Česká republika Audit
KPMG Česká republika Audit, s.r.o.
Evidenční číslo 71

Petr Škoda
Ing. Petr Škoda
Partner
Evidenční číslo 1842