

HAVEL NA HRAD

Václav Havel Library
Annual Report 2019



Václav Havel Library Annual Report 2019



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The Václav Havel Library is registered according to the Law on Libraries
under registration no. 6343/2007 at the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic

www.vaclavhavel.cz

www.havelnavzdy.cz

www.rokrevoluce.cz

www.denikrevoluce.cz

www.zmenitsvet.cz

www.cisthavla.cz

www.rozhovoryvh.cz

www.havlovy-deti.cz

www.provolani19.cz

www.othereurope.com

<http://tvare-vzdoru.vaclavhavel-library.org/>

www.facebook.com/KnihovnaVaclavaHavla

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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 be in some way 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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Headquarters of the Václav Havel Library: Ostrovní 13, Prague 1.

The Václav Havel Library

The Václav Havel Library (hereinafter the “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 popularize 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 “Havel in a Nutshell” exhibition 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 era and the creation of civil society in the democracy-building period
- organising archival, archival-researching, 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 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 Jonáš
Luděk Niedermayer

Statutory representative

Michael Žantovský, Executive Director

Library team

Zuzana Barincová – Production Assistant – *0.5 time (from November 2019)*
Veronika Pikola Brázdilová – Production – *0.5 time*
Eva Csémyová – Archive – *0.6 time (to February 2019)*
Anna Freimanová – Editor – *0.8 time*
Barbora Grečnerová – Education Coordinator
Barbora Hanková – Production Assistant – *0.6 time (to December 2019)*
Pavel Hájek – Head of Production

Petr Kalaš – Archivist/Librarian (*from March 2019*)
Lucie Prachařová – Executive Assistant
Karolína Stránská – Office Manager
Jáchym Topol – Chief Dramaturge
Martin Vidlák – Head of the Documentation Centre

Jan Hron – Digital archive administration, external
Zdenka Potměšilová – Custodian, external
Šárka Sladovnicková – Havel in a Nutshell Lectures, external
Rozálie Stejskalová – Assistance in the archive, Instructor, external
Adriana Svítková – Assistant – Education, external (*July–August 2019*)
Libuše Šídllová – Custodian, external
Petr Štefek – the archive, external
Lucie Zíchová – Instructor, external

Alžběta Baumanová – Production assistant, external (*from November 2019*)
Marie Dorazilová – Production assistant, external
Kateřina Hanková – Production assistant, external
Lucie Kopecká – Production assistant, external
Natálie Kučírková – Production assistant, external
Dora Machová – Production assistant, external
Josef Polášek – Production assistant, external (*from October 2019*)
Viktorie Preissová – Production assistant, external
Anežka Richterová – Production assistant, external (*from October 2019*)
Jana Rumlová – Production assistant, external
Barbora Šikulová – Production assistant, external
Hana Tenglerová – Production assistant, external

External collaborators

Jiří Bělohradský – Server administration
Klára Binarová – Production – Václav Havel Human Rights Prize
Jakub Čermák – Multimedia
Václav Doubravský – IT support

Tomáš Javora – Video recordings
 Zuzana Janečková – Production – Václav Havel Human Rights Prize
 Luděk Kubík – Graphic design
 Eva Lorencová – Editing and teaching work
 Ondřej Němec – the photo archive
 Radka Prošková – Production
 Nina Rutová – Programs for schools Instructor
 Kristýna Šlajchrtová – Carton Clan, Graphic design
 Jana Vejříková – Přepišto.cz, transcription of spoken word and texts
 Adéla Volfová – Production – Václav Havel European Dialogues
 Ian Richard Willoughby – English translations
 Erika Zlamalová – Ivan M. Havel Archive/Production/Social Networks
 Hynek Zlatník – English translations

Volunteers / interns

Kristýna Klimplová
 Tereza Podzemská
 Natálie Šimůnková

Services

Building administration: Atkins and Langford Development, s. r. o.
 Audit: Deloitte 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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Josef Vinklát
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Michael Žantovský

Institutions:

Arts and Theatre Institute

Czech Television
Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes
Nation's Memory Institute
Contemporary History Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences
Institute of History, Czech Academy of Sciences
Czech National Library
Libri prohibiti, Prague
Prague City Gallery
City of Prague Museum
Prague Castle Administration
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Czech Radio
Činoherní klub theatre
People in Need
Dejvické divadlo theatre
Díky, že můžem
DILIA
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Divadlo Archa theatre
Divadlo Husa na provázku theatre
Divadlo Na zábradlí theatre
Divadlo v Dlouhé theatre
DOX Centre for Contemporary Art
American Spring festival
Stranou festival



- Tvůrči Afrika festival
 French Institute in Prague
 Google Cultural Institute
 Music and Dance Faculty, Academy of Performing Arts
 European Values Initiative
 Europeum Institute for European Policy
 Arts and Theatre Institute
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 Prague Municipal Library
 International Festival of Documentary Films
 Moravian Provincial Library Brno
 Museum Kampa
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 FORUM 2000 Foundation
 Hanns Seidel Foundation Prague
 Charta 77 Foundation
 National Archive
 National Film Archive
 Absynt publishing house
 Argo publishing house
 Kalich publishing house
 Karolinum publishing house
 Novela Bohemica publishing house
 Portál publishing house
 Pulchra 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
 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
 Libri prohibiti samizdat library
- Ferdinand Peroutka Association
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 Sinopsis society
 Litera society
 Mladá politika society
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 Book World Prague
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 Institute for Czech-American Relations
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A Word from the Director

Though less than six months have elapsed since the end of 2019, it feels like the distant past. The present has placed new and unforeseen tests before us. This makes it perhaps doubly fitting to look back at 2019 as the most successful year so far in the 15-year history of the Václav Havel Library. Thanks to the hard work of the entire Library team, support from the founders and Board of Trustees and from numerous institutions, and the generosity of our strategic sponsors and other supporters major and minor, we surpassed previous results in virtually all of our activities, in both quantitative and qualitative terms. Particularly deserving of attention are:

- the extraordinary success of both of our international conferences (Václav Havel European Dialogues in spring and autumn's conference for the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize), which boasted prestigious speakers, new interactive elements, a larger audience both in the halls and on social media and increased focus on young viewers and listeners) and satellite European Dialogues in Brussels
- the stable and popular dramaturgy of events at the Library's club, where attendance continues to swell
- concerted efforts at taking our events beyond Prague within the project Václav Havel Here and Now, involvement in book fairs, festivals and other cultural and social events
- our firmly established line of educational programs, both online and direct contact, as seen in 2019 in the successful series Year of Revolution, dozens of meetings at schools and workshops for teachers, the successful project Václav Havel's Bookshelves and growing interest in our best student essay competition, dedicated to the legacy of Václav Havel
- the Library's major role in celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution (international Czech Radio conference in cooperation with the Library, live radio broadcast from the Library on 17. November, participation in Cabinet Havel on the náměstí Václava Havla square, the VHL Director's appearance as part of celebrations on Wenceslas Square and the extremely successful reconstruction of the Civic Forum at the Činoherní klub theatre)
- the VHL's ever-expanding digital footprint, which is assuming near-Yeti dimensions
- the single-minded and rationally run publishing program, centred around the legacy of Václav Havel; titles that were certain loss makers, though necessary in documentary terms, which have been shifted to the digital publishing sphere
- the successful advancing of Václav Havel's legacy in European political and cultural consciousness through involvement with the European Parliament's Network of Political Houses and Foundations of Great Europeans, the Library's co-participation in the bestowal of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and individual events such as the travelling exhibition The Power of the Powerless in major European cities
- the successful continuation of efforts to maintain existing sponsors and acquire new ones, including the launch of the Havel Forever small donors project
- increasingly effective participation in grant competitions, both domestically and at EU level
- ground work for the launch of the Havel Channel online video channel, thanks to the support of the Komárek Family (In 2019, we couldn't have had an inkling that the work already carried out on the project would skyrocket in value with the Library's shift to virtual operations forced by the COVID-19 pandemic).

Thanks to these results, the Václav Havel Library is an attractive, firmly-established and respected institution today that is helping to make Václav Havel's legacy an integral and vibrant part of political, social and cultural life in the Czech Republic, Europe and the world.

Michael Žantovský
Executive Director – statutory representative
19 June 2020



The Documentation Centre

The Documentation Centre administers a specialized library of 6,161 catalogued titles, an extensive photographic archive and written documents whose digital processing has reached 51,218 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 digitized 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 2019, its interns were: Kristýna Klimplová, a student of Information Studies and Librarianship at Charles University's Faculty of Arts, and Tereza Podzemská from the Secondary School of Book Culture.

The Archive

The Archive continued with the ongoing digitisation of selected archive documents as well as their description and cataloguing. This chiefly concerned the digitisation of documents and photographs from the archive of Ivan M. Havel, including their description, in a total of 2,412 high resolution scans.

A new three-year project *The Other Europe* was launched. In 2018 the Václav Havel Library received an extraordinary audio-visual acquisition from Britain's Imperial War Museum, in terms of both content and scope, in the form of a six-part documentary series *The Other Europe* and additional footage shot on 16mm film.

The Other Europe is a six-part documentary series shot in 1987–1988 in Central and Eastern European countries, especially Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, Poland and Romania. It was produced for the UK's Channel Four by the now-defunct company Panoptic and was written and presented

by the French political scientist and journalist Jacques Rupnik, directed by Tom Roberts and produced by Nick Fraser. Czechoslovak Television broadcasted the series in the early 1990s.

The documentary series contains authentic testimony on the reality of life behind the Iron Curtain in the second half of the 1980s from leading representatives of the domestic anti-communist opposition and exiles, figures from the art world and regular citizens. The archival value of the material is substantial since no analogous audio-visual material exist that would explore this subject so thoroughly and in such international scope.

The aim is to gradually process around 100 interviews and place them in a publicly accessible database on the website othereurope.com. The Václav Havel Library received a strategic grant from the Visegrad Fund and a Europe for Citizens grant from the European Commission for this purpose. The project's partners are the National Széchényi Library in Budapest, the European Solidarity Centre in Gdansk, the Nation's Memory Institute in Bratislava and Dresden's Gedenkstätte Bautzner Straße; they are also involved in the processing the materials.

The Archive in numbers

At the end of 2019, the total number of processed events and documents amounted to 51,218; the number of processed events in the life of Václav Havel was 15,301; the number of processed texts by Václav Havel was 2,994; texts about Václav Havel 14,722; bibliographic entries 24,263; processed correspondence 5,726; photographs 2,035; video recordings 277; and audio recordings 557. At the end of the year, the book catalogue reached a total of 6,161 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 250 individual queries during personal visits by researchers or via email. Some 698 new researchers registered in the digital 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 Barbora Dvořáková’s thesis “What opens the door to evil: Language as an instrument of manipulation in Václav Havel’s dramatic oeuvre”, written at the Institute of Czech Studies at the Faculty of Arts of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, and Jakub Jícha’s thesis “Development and transformations in Václav Havel’s political thought”, written at the Faculty of Arts of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem.

Documents of insufficient quality and resolution that the Documentation Centre also has access to were gradually digitalized 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 additions comprised another part of the archive of Ivan M. Havel, which is gradually being processed, and an extensive book donation (over 400 volumes) from sisters Iva and Jana Štěpánková (see below).

The following made personal contributions to the archival and library collections: Josette Baer, Elcin Bahceci, Jay Ball, Sally Bartůšková, Martin Boštík, Vladimír Bystrov, Barbora Doležalová, David Dušek, Mrs. Dvořáková, Pavlína Eisenhamerová, Sarah Farnsworth, Přemysl Fialka, Anna Freimanová, Zdeněk Harvánek, Milan Hauner, Ivan M. Havel, David Hrbek, Pavel Hájek, Andrzej Jagodzinski, Alena Janková, Alena Jirásková, Rosamund Johnston, Lenka Kabrhelová, Pavel Kačírek, Martin Kalaš, Petr Kalaš, Michael Kocáb, Karel Král, Jiří Kuděla, Ján Lóerincz, Justin MacGregor, Ivo Mathé, Mr. Mlčák, Ondřej Němec, Vladimír Opatrný, Radvan Pácl, Dušan Pastirik, Miloslav Picmaus, Veronika Pikola Brázdilová, Anu Saluäär-Kall, Andrej Sannikov, Andrea Sedláčková, Vlasta Smoláková, Marie Smolej, Jiří and Olga Sozanský, Marie Steklíková, Michaela Sýkorová, Denisa Šedivá, Iva and Jana Štěpánková, Jiří Taussik, Prokop

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Institutions that made contributions were: Arts and Theatre Institute, Czech Television, Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, Nation’s Memory Institute, Contemporary History Institute at the Czech Academy of Sciences, Institute of History at the Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech National Library, Libri prohibiti, Prague, Prague City Gallery, City of Prague Museum, Prague Castle Administration, Antikvariát 11, Prague, Brno Municipal Theatre, Faculty of Arts, J. E. Purkyně University, Ústí nad Labem, Regional Museum, in Litomyšl, Encuentro Madrid.

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.

The Library

The Archive’s Library continued to focus on expanding its bibliography of works by Václav Havel. The number of entries at the end of the year stood at 24,263. The bibliography is freely accessible, linked to the book catalogue and maps texts published both domestically and abroad to the greatest possible extent.

At the close of 2019, a total of 679 new entries of publications, including 639 books and 40 periodicals, had been added to the book catalogue. The total number of new volumes in 2019 (i.e. including duplicates) reached 693.

The designation of new call numbers to the entire book collection was completed while the designation of new call numbers to the periodicals collection was launched. Some new call numbers were added and the entire collection underwent complete revision; duplicates and books that do not fall under the VHL’s area of interest were removed. Furthermore, an inventory of these books was made with proposals for their later gradual elimination in order to acquire space for further additions to the collection. The bookshelves were freshly marked with clear labels, including call numbers. In addition to regular purchases of domestic literature, the Library acquired several samizdat works, missing or newly published in the year in question, foreign translations (mainly Italian and English) of Václav Havel’s works and most importantly an extensive book donation

from the exiled Štěpánková sisters comprising over 400 volumes from their parents' estates of Czech books published in exile. Missing volumes produced by the VHL were added to the collection from stock and unprocessed books dedicated to Václav Havel or the President's Office were added to the database. During the revision of the collection, older records of library units in the database were continuously added and corrected if found to be incomplete or inaccurate.

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 9 am to 5 pm; it was also accessible at other times by prior arrangement.

The Photo Archive

In 2019, more than 300 photographs, predominantly from the archive of Ivan M. Havel, were processed.

Two hundred and fifty photographs from the book *My Memoirs* were provided with metadata and imported into the digital database.

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

Photo documentation of 33 events (930 photographs) organized by the Library in 2019 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; these included *Kančí na dančím: Kuchařka Václava Havla* (*Wild Boar on Venison: The Václav Havel Cookbook*).

The Pavel Juráček Archive

The Pavel Juráček Archive arose in February 2014 when his son Marek Juráček donated 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 digitized. The result of this work should not only map the life and work of one of the key figures of the New Wave of Czechoslovak film in the 1960s, but also 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 awareness and to notionally build on the deep friendship he shared with Václav Havel. Soon after Juráček's death in 1989 Havel said about 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 2019, the PJ Archive was expanded by 50 period family photographs (a donation from Juráček's son Marek). Extensive research materials from the latter half of the 1970s and the 1980s significantly contributed to preparations for the co-publication *Pavel Juráček – Diary 4 (1975–1989)*, which should be published in cooperation with publishers TORST publishing house in late 2020. The seventh volume of the *Works of Pavel Juráček, Případ pro začínajícího kata* (*Case for a Rookie Hangman*), was sent to the publishers in December 2019; it comprises all of Juráček's texts linked to the production of that film, including synopses, explication, film story and two versions of the literary screenplay. For completeness, the volume also includes an extensive selection of diary entries, hitherto unpublished correspondence and archival documents. Work on an anthology of Pavel Juráček's correspondence, preserved in an exceptionally complete manner, was carried out throughout the year.

Cooperation on public events and projects

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

On the Library's program

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

- Václav Havel European Dialogues and Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2019
- Museum Night 2019 – Evening comprising Year of Revolution lessons and accompanying exhibition of architectural proposals for a new memorial to Václav Havel at Prague Airport
- 17 November Celebrations – Václav Havel's Living Room on Národní St. and a day at the Václav Havel Library in



cooperation with Czech Radio and Czech Television; this included a public debate, Year of Revolution lessons and Václav Havel's speech on the 20th anniversary of 17 November 1989 and the It's Back Again gathering at the Činoherní klub theatre

- Getting the Message Across – research and photo projection for a debate on the role of the international media during the Velvet Revolution
- Year of Revolution, educational lessons drawing on the archive's materials
- By a selection of texts, quotations, photographs and the preparation of photo projections, the Documentation Centre contributed to many of the institution's other activities, including the evenings Václav Havel and Film and Humour in Revolution.

The Archive staff took part in a presentation on the institute for the National Technical Library staff, discussing with them the archive's work and services, the structure and content of collections and the roles of all the different sections of the Václav Havel Library.

On the preparation of Library book titles

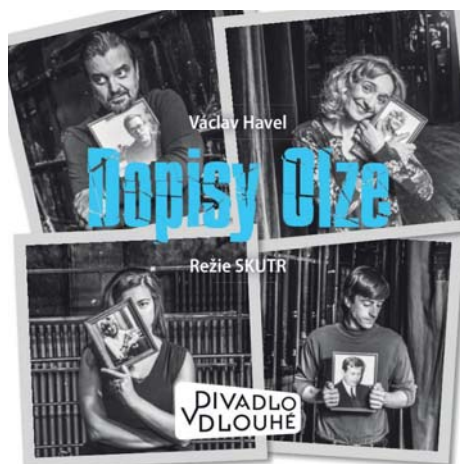
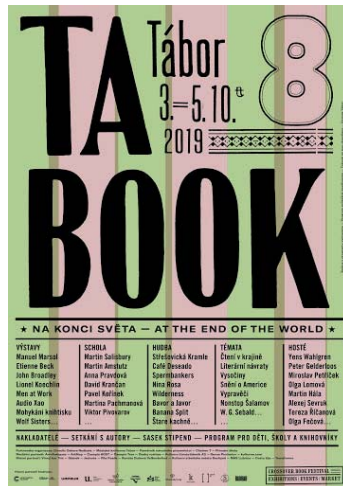
- Anna Freimanová, Tereza Johanidesová (eds.): *Má to smysl! Rozhovory s Václavem Havlem z let 1960–1989 (It's Worth Doing! Interviews with Václav Havel, 1960–1989)*
- Jan Bernard (ed.): *Václav Havel a film, scénáře, úvahy a analýzy z let 1957–1989 (Václav Havel and Film: Screenplays, Essays and Analyses, 1957–1989)*
- Michael Žantovský let al: *Kančí na daňčím. Kuchařka Václava Havla (Wild Boar on Venison: The Václav Havel Cookbook)*
- Václav Havel: *Já nejsem smutný (I'm Not Sad) / Audience + Vernisáž (Audience and Unveiling)*
- Václav Havel: *Chyť zajíce, ať ho máš! / Zahradní slavnost (Catch the Hare So You've Got Him! / The Garden Party)*

On exhibitions

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

- Oldřich Škácha: Not Just Havel, Galerie Zlatý Hrad 07/03/2019





- Carnations and Velvet, Art and Revolution in Portugal and Czechoslovakia 1968–1974–1989, Prague City Gallery 30/04–29/09/2019
- VH – Dissident, President, Citizen, Svatováclavská St., Mělník 11/11/2019–10/01/2020
- Oldřich Škácha: 30 Years Since the Revolution, Galerie Pod Věží, Mladá Boleslav 14/11–31/12/2019
- Oldřich Škácha: The Times They Are a Changin' and Ivo Šilhavý: Just A Perfect Day, two exhibitions at the Czech Centre in Milan, autumn-winter 2019
- Havel for the Castle, The Story of 1989, National Archive, Chodovec, Prague 05/11–15/12/2019
- Responsabilidad como destino, Congreso de diputados Madrid 19/11–15/12/2019
- Exhibition on a century of Czech-Spanish relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with the Centre of Ibero-American Studies at Charles University and the Spanish Embassy, travelling exhibition in Madrid and Prague, autumn 2019
- How the Lucerna elevated Prague's metropolitan character, Havel family entrepreneurs, 1907–1948, 03/05/2019
- Václav Havel – The Road to Freedom, Silesian Museum – Petr Bezruč Memorial, 11/09/2019–26/01/2020
- Havel Architecture, Vila Stiassni, Brno 08/10–15/12/2019
- Flying the World with Václav Havel, Prague Airport 15/11/2019–31/01/2020
- The Power of the Powerless, with Italian partners
- 30 years of freedom, na Vrážích church, Černošice, 13/11/2019
- 30 years of freedom, Church of Brethren church, Smíchov, Prague, 20/11–31/12/2019
- Large format portraits of Václav Havel for public memorials in Pečky, Táboř, Soběslav, Třeboň and Sezimovo Ústí
- In cooperation with the Department of Public Diplomacy, the digital exhibition Václav Havel in a Nutshell, which is currently available to Czech Centres around the world, was presented on the premises of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Exhibition at the Činoherní restaurant on the 30th anniversary of the foundation of Civic Forum

On the presentation of VHL-produced books

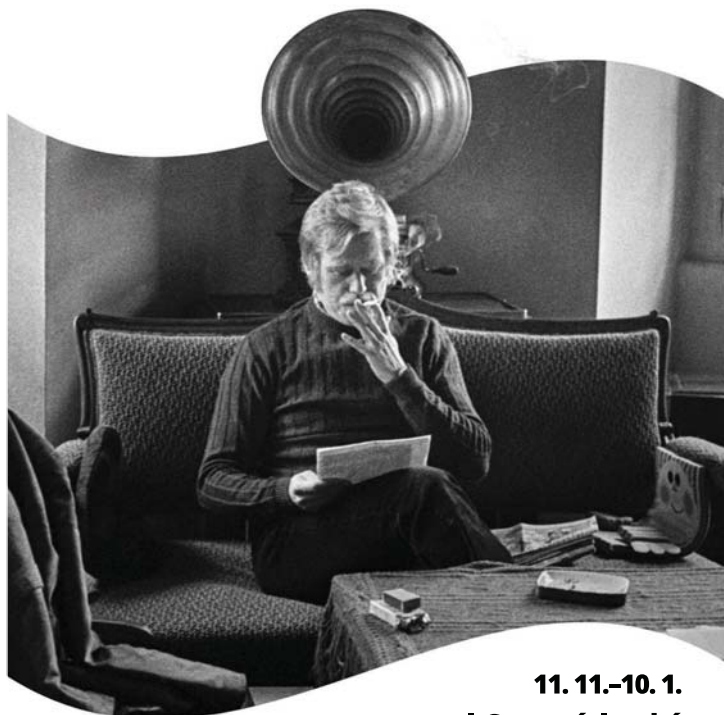
- Europe Day 2019, Střelecký ostrov, Prague, 09/05/2019
- Book World, Výstaviště Prague, 09–12/05/2019
- Václav Havel European Dialogues, DOX, Prague, 20/05/2019
- Book World, DEPO 2015 Plzeň, 21–22/09/2019



- Tabook, Střelnice Tábor, 04–05/10/2019
- Letní Knihex, Kasárna Karlín Prague, 08/06/2019
- Conference in honour of the VH Human Rights Prize laureate, Prague Crossroads, Prague, 02/10/2019
- Farmers' market at Kulaťák, Vítězné náměstí Prague, 16/11/2019
- Václav Havel's Living Room, Korzo Národní, Národní St., Prague, 17/11/2019
- It's Back Again, Činoherní klub, Prague, 17/11/2019
- I'm a Gypsy Baron – book launch, Divadlo Apollo, Prague, 04/12/2019
- Zimní Knihex, Studio Alta, Prague, 14–15/12/2019

On the preparation and realisation of theatre productions and competitions

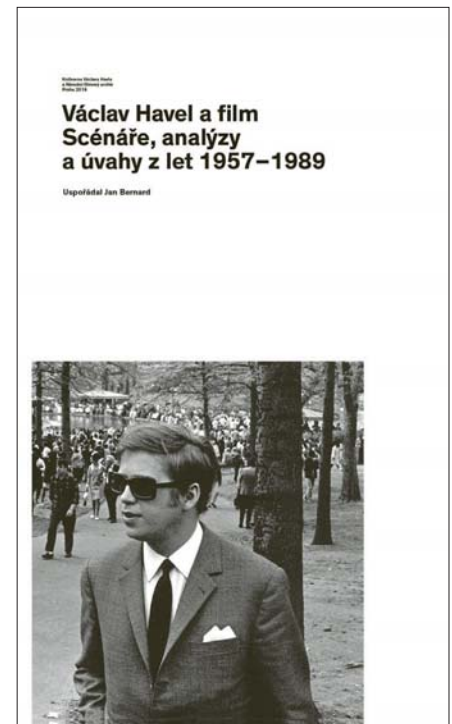
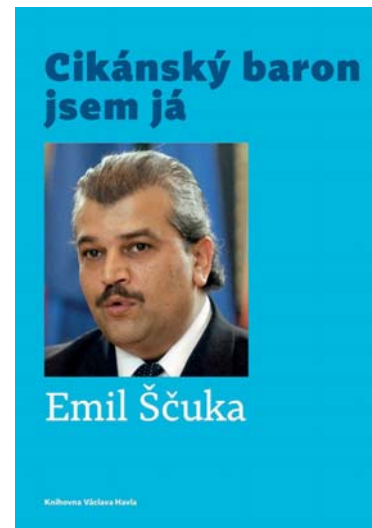
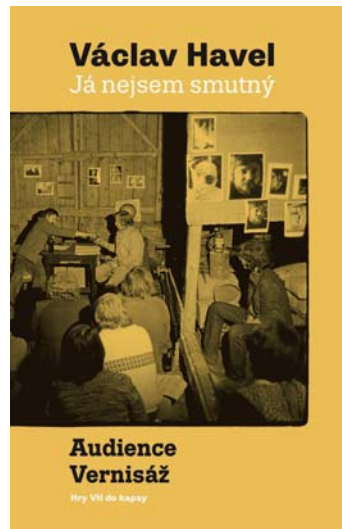
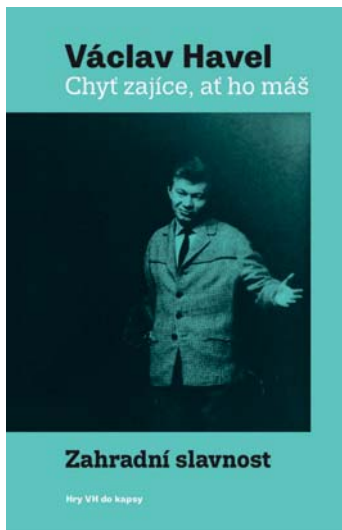
- Consultation and preparation of materials for productions of VH plays and a film about VH
- Letters to Olga, Divadlo v Dlouhé theatre, Prague – various materials, consultation
- The Beggar's Opera, Městské divadlo Brno theatre, materials for theatrical program
- The Beggar's Opera, Městská divadla Pražská theatres – materials for theatrical program, etc.
- DAMU in cooperation with the VHLF – Best short play competition
- Consultations and materials for a production of The Beggar's Opera by the NAŠELOSE amateur theatre in Sedčany



**11. 11.–10. 1.
ul. Svatováclavská**

VH – disident, prezident, občan

Exteriérová výstava fotografií Oldřicha Škáchy uspořádaná ve spolupráci s Knihovnou Václava Havla.



Publishing Activities

The central focus of the Library's publishing program is the life and work of Václav Havel, his family and close collaborators and friends. For clarity, the program 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

Published in 2019

Michael Žantovský et al: *Kančí na daňčím. Kuchařka Václava Havla (Wild Boar on Venison: The Václav Havel Cookbook)*

Anna Freimanová, Tereza Johanidesová (eds.): *Má to smysl! Rozhovory s Václavem Havlem z let 1960–1989 (It's Worth Doing! Interviews with Václav Havel, 1960–1989)*

Václav Havel, Anna Freimanová (ed.): *Moc bezmocných a jiné eseje (The Power of the Powerless and Other Essays) (reprint)*

Published in previous years

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

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

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

Sold-out titles

Václav M. Havel: *Mé vzpomínky. První úplné vydání ((My Memoirs: The First Complete Edition)* (2018)

Krystyna Wanatowiczová: *Miloš Havel – český filmový magnát (Miloš Havel – Czech Film Magnate)* (2013, 2017)

Jan Hron (ed.): *Perzekuce Václava Havla. Dopisy a dokumenty z let 1968–1989 (The Persecution*

of Václav Havel: Documents and Letters, 1968–1989) (2015)

Pavel Juráček: *Prostřednictvím kočky (By Means of a Cat)* (2014)

Filip Topol: *Fantazie G moll (A 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. In a way they are 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.

The originally 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 the busy schedule of the editor, TV presenter Jakub Železný; in all likelihood it 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 2019, we reprinted two already existing volumes that had long been sold-out: Anna Freimanová (ed.): *Síla věčnosti Olgy Havlové (Olga Havlová's Power of Pragmatism)* and Jan Lukeš: *Právě proto, že jsem. Rozhovor s Ivanem M. Havlem (Just Because I Am: An Interview with Ivan M. Havel)*. We also added a title edited by Anna Freimanová and Tereza Johanidesová: *Má to smysl! Rozhovory s Václavem Havlem z let 1960–1989 (It's Worth Doing! Interviews with Václav Havel, 1960–1989)*:

Anna Freimanová, Tereza Johanidesová (eds.): Má to smysl! Rozhovory s Václavem Havlem z let 1960–1989 (It's Worth Doing! Interviews with Václav Havel, 1960–1989)

"It is noteworthy that almost all of the discussions flow in a calm, cordial atmosphere (the hectic year of 1989 excepted) and that a confrontational tone is utterly absent from them. In most cases, the interviewer is not forceful and the questions are direct, clear and pertain to both the current situation and to Havel's personal life and artistic output. If there is no need for cloak and dagger manoeuvres, Havel also responds thus – openly and spontaneously. He is not afraid of the personal level but maintains an appropriate distance. Journalists recognize Havel's natural authority and respect him; there are no attempts at investigative probes or revelations. It is interesting that at that time, Václav gave no thought whatever to his image or what kind of impression he ought to make on the journalist, and therefore the reader, and chiefly focused on a precise formulation of the interview's content.

The interviewee was admittedly always accommodating and polite and respected the journalist, but for the most part, he kept a tight rein on the situation and said what he wanted to say. In the newspaper interviews, it is frequently possible to observe the thinking 'out loud' that was typical of Václav Havel and via which he constantly searched for the meaning of life and his own existence and the truth. He never obfuscates.

Little Central European Czechoslovakia only rarely becomes the centre of world media attention. An interest in the events on the frontiers of Eastern Europe was not and is not a given. With his work and his resistance to dictatorship, Václav Havel succeeded in sparking such attention and loudly drew attention to his country, in which a totalitarian regime was trampling on human rights and freedoms. The world was (and remains)

full of far more noteworthy historical turbulences and events, meaning that every mention of Czechoslovakia played an important role on the path to democracy. We must be thankful to Václav Havel." (From Anna Freimanová's introduction).

The book, which was ceremonially launched at a book fair in May, sold out within three months, so a new print was made at the end of the summer; almost two-thirds of it had been sold by December 2019.

The Student Line

In this series since 2012, the Library has been issuing thematic collections from the works of Václav Havel, intended primarily for students or those encountering his work (and life) for the first time. Individual volumes are supported by essays by experts on Havel's oeuvre and a rich collection of photographs.

No new titles were added to this series in 2019. However, its most successful title – VH's essays edited by Anna Freimanová in *Moc bezmocných a jiné eseje (The Power of the Powerless and other essays)*, of which 3,000 copies were sold by the end of 2018 – received a third print run.

Talks from Lány

Established in 2013, *Talks from Lány (1990–2000)*, a series of transcriptions from a series of radio interviews with Václav Havel, was transformed from the classic printed edition into electronic form in 2016.

In 2019, the fifth edition in the series, *Hovory v Lánech 1994 (Talks from Lány, 1994)* was prepared for typesetting and should be published in autumn 2020.

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. Already the initial encounter with the preserved typed and handwritten manuscripts revealed 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 2019, number 7 in the series Works of PJ was published. It focuses on perhaps the most discussed of Juráček's films, *Case for a Rookie Hangman*, and received a ceremonial launch at the Literary Festival in Ostrava in January 2020.

Major progress was made on the preparations for an anthology of Pavel Juráček's correspondence.

Last but not least, the PJ Archive made a major contribution to the preparations for the fourth volume of Pavel Juráček's *Deník (Diary)* (see the section Publication Cooperation).

Václav Havel Library Conferences

This series was established in autumn 2014 with the aim of mapping the proceedings of selected conferences in the preparation and holding of which the Library has been involved, whether as a (co)organizer or guarantor. Compared to regular conference proceedings, the preparation of these volumes receives extraordinary care, also in terms of design; each is accompanied by an artwork of an artist which chimes in with the subject.

No volumes were issued within this series in 2019.

Pocket VH Plays

The Library's latest series, founded at the end of 2019, gives students and others the unique chance to carry Václav Havel's plays with them, even if they do not carry a bag or backpack over their shoulder. At the turn of the year, the titles *Já nejsem smutný / Audience + Vernisáž (I'm Not Sad / Audience + Unveiling)* and *Chyť zajíce, ať ho máš! / Zahradní slavnost (Catch the Hare So You've Got Him! / The Garden Party)* were readied for publication by Anna Freimanová.

Václav Havel, Anna Freimanová (ed.): Já nejsem smutný / Audience + Vernisáž (I'm Not Sad / Audience + Unveiling)

This volume features the one-act plays *Audience* and *Unveiling* and places Václav Havel's most successful theatrical character, the banned writer Vaněk, at the centre of the action. In the years of Husák's normalization, the timid but principled hero is not ready to give in to police state dictate and does his best not to betray his principles and to live according to his conscience.

In *Audience*, two utterly different worlds collide at one table – a shy, quiet intellectual and an animalistic boor in the form of a brewery brew-master – to contest duels with the methods of the secret police, which neither of them can win. "I'm not sad," Vaněk persuades those around him, though he has to roll barrels at the brewery, has secret police sniffing around him and his boss forces him to drink gallons of beer, which he doesn't like...

Unveiling also represents a clash of different outlooks on life. The married couple Michal and Věra have invited over their old friend Vaněk in order to show off their new fancily renovated apartment stuffed with antique furniture and modern kitchen appliances. Are they really as happy in their fake paradise as they want their pal, a blacklisted writer doing manual labour in a brewery, to believe?

In addition to the handy format, this Václav Havel Library series is characterized by useful annotations – additional texts that explore the historical, cultural and personal context of the plays' genesis and deliver a clear biography of the author, a selected bibliography and other useful information about the plays themselves, the writer and the period.

Václav Havel, Anna Freimanová (ed.): Chyť zajíce, ať ho máš! / Zahradní slavnost (Catch the Hare So You've Got Him! / The Garden Party)

The satirical 1960s comedy *The Garden Party* was among the first Czech absurdist plays and – at the legendary Divadlo Na zábradlí theatre – was the first play by Václav Havel performed on stage. A young chess lover, the hard-working Hugo Pludek, sets off to "be something". He soon grasps the laws of success and finds his feet in a world of phrases and red tape, adapting himself pliantly to whatever will take him to the top. But... is he still Hugo Pludek?

In addition to the handy format, this Václav Havel Library series is characterized by useful accoutrements – additional texts that explore the historical, cultural and personal context of the plays' gestation and deliver a clear biography of the author, a selected bibliography and other useful information about the plays themselves, the writer and the period.

Extra-series

Work published outside the above series 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 2019, the VH Library brought out two such new titles and one reprint:

In May, the book *Kančí na daňčím (Wild Boar on Venison)*, subtitled *Kuchařka Václava Havla (The Václav Havel Cookbook)*, by Michael Žantovský and his colleagues was launched at the Book World Prague international trade fair. It became the Library's best-selling boo in 2019 and was therefore reprinted at



the turn of September. (For the sake of completeness, it must be added that the collective of authors decided to donate all profits to the development of the VHL's activities).

In September, the Library brought out a reprint of *Praha Václava Havla (Václav Havel's Prague)*, Zdeněk Lukeš's successful guide to buildings associated with Václav Havel.

At the turn of November, it published *Cikánský baron jsem já (I'm a Gypsy Baron)*, an extensive autobiography from the eminent Romany civil society activist Emil Ščuka.

In 2019, work also progressed on these titles: *Kilán Nedory* (a curated anthology of texts linked to the legendary alter ego of Filip Topol, front-man of Psí Vojáci band) and *Lucerna / Barrandov* (an epic monograph about the Havel family's activities in construction). A title with the working name *Rozhovor s Oldřichem Škáchou (Interview with Oldřich Škacha)* – his last authorized interview, supplemented by a selection of photos tracing Škacha's "journey to photography" – has been put on hold as it is possible it may be included in an intended ambitious monograph dedicated to the photographer.

Michael Žantovský et al.: Kančí na daňčím. Kuchařka Václava Havla (Wild Boar on Venison: The Václav Havel Cookbook)

A book of recipes associated with Václav Havel – either as a diner or as a highly idiosyncratic chef.

Václav Havel was a playwright, essayist, dissident, prisoner of conscience and president of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic, one of the great figures of Czech, European and world history of the 20th century. He is thus presented in encyclopaedias, expert studies and teaching curricula. However, the fact Havel was also an enthusiastic, thoughtful, creative and popular chef throughout his life is rarely referred to. Although he did not achieve such significant results here as in other areas, time spent in the kitchen made his life complete, enriched the lives of his family and friends and helped to create strong bonds, uniting like-minded friends in the gruelling normalisation period. For this reason, too, we dedicate this minor culinary memorial to him. We do not want to build a culinary monument to Havel, nor to present him as an example of healthy eating, but simply to delight those who will be glad to be acquainted with this lesser-known side of his life.

Zdeněk Lukeš: Praha Václava Havla. Průvodce po stavbách spojených s životem dramatika, disidenta a prezidenta (Václav Havel's Prague: A Guide to Buildings and Places with a Role in the Life of the Playwright, Dissident and President)

The book *Praha Václava Havla. Průvodce po stavbách spojených s životem dramatika, disidenta a prezidenta (Václav Havel's Prague: A Guide to Buildings and Places with a Role in the Life of the Playwright, Dissident and President)* explores buildings in the Czech capital linked to the life of this extraordinary figure. In several chapters, the guidebook presents in photographs by Pavel Hroch and others, 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. While president, Havel personally contributed to making the Prague Castle complex more welcoming and the book also includes places linked with the last years of his life. The mosaic of places includes buildings with a variety of functions – from favourite pubs, cafes, and theatres, flats of fellow dissidents, secret-police interrogation rooms and prison to the changes Havel initiated in the architecture of the Castle. The 70 chronologically presented entries are accompanied by biographical information about particular periods of Havel's life, detailed maps and thumbnail bios of the architects.

Emil Ščuka: Cikánský baron jsem já (I'm a Gypsy Baron)

A three-part book of memoirs by Dr. Emil Ščuka, who has played an important role in the process of emancipation of the Romany minority in the Czech Republic and in the formation of the Romany nation in the international context, accelerated after the fall of communism in Central and Eastern Europe in the "miraculous year" of 1989. In the first part, *Good Lord*, Ščuka explores his childhood, school education and experiences as a Romany state prosecutor in the final decade of communist dictatorship.

The second part, *One Swallow Doesn't Make a Summer*, looks at the rise of the Romany political movement in Czechoslovakia after the Velvet Revolution and its leaders' experiences in the revived Czechoslovak and later Czech democracy.

The third part, *I'm a Gypsy Baron*, concerns Ščuka's efforts in the international arena. There the focus was not on the Roma issue within the framework of the Czechoslovak Republic established by Masaryk and the two states created on its territory in 1993 but an issue broader in scope. The key issue of the transition from the "short" 20th century to a new era, the

contours of which are forming around us in the first decades of the 21st century, is the existence of the Roma nation as a distinctive whole; it has no territory on which to declare sovereignty and to implement a national agenda but nevertheless aspires to be an equal partner to other European nations in the process of European integration and, in this context, to pursue the long-term goals of "national revival".

Publishing cooperation

In this area, alongside publishing biographical books about Václav Havel, the Library focused on cooperation on the publication of Pavel Juráček's *Deník (Diary)* (TORST publishing house) in 2019. The collaboration consisted in the provision of archival materials, consultations with the authors and carrying out pieces of research for the fourth, concluding volume of diary entries from 1975–1988, which should be published by TORST in autumn 2020.

The World of Václav Havel

The program 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 organizes or is actively involved in. In 2019 its central plank was the seventh 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 thus strengthen their position within Europe.

It is conceived 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 tertiary-level students, as well as specialists and members of the public interested in European issues.

20. 5. | DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague The EU Between Yesterday and Tomorrow

In the year of the 15th anniversary of accession to the EU, and just four days before key elections to the European Parliament, we evaluated the position of the Czech Republic in the European Union and of the European Union in the Czech Republic and Central Europe, while at the same time looking to the future, mainly through the eyes of young people whose lives will be influenced by the EU.

Program

- 12.30–13.00 **Registration**
- 13.00–13.15 **Opening**
 Michael Žantovský (Director of the Václav Havel Library)
 Dana Kovaříková (Head of the Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic)
- 13.15–13.35 **Performance by Bohdan Bláhovec** on the theme *The EU Between Today and Tomorrow*, musical accompaniment by Jakub Cermaque
- 13.35–14.50 **Panel I The EU – A Matter of Love or a Marriage of Convenience**
In his address to the European Parliament in 1994, Václav Havel said that having studied the Maastricht Treaty and other documents on which the EU is based, the appeal was to his reason, not to his heart. Prior to joining the EU, a considerable part of the population was influenced by the euphoria over "returning to the West". In the 2003 referendum, 77% of people voted to join. Can we say now, 15 years later, that citizens' hearts still burn for the EU? How are we experiencing European identity today? Isn't it just a marriage of convenience, stripped of all emotion? Where can the EU's positive "charisma" be found, especially for young people?

Guests: Věra Jourová (European Commission), Lenka Zlámalová (Echo24), Martin Povejšil (Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and Pavel Rychetský (Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic)

Moderated by: Jiří Hošek (Seznam TV)

15.10–16.25 **Panel II Central Europe in the EU and the EU in Central Europe**

In some respects, Central Europe has been going through a European identity crisis in recent years. There are even efforts to change the pro-Western course to the East. What is causing this crisis, and how does it manifest itself in individual countries in the region? And how is the EU perceived by active young people who are engaged in civic life and are trying to fight back against that alternative vision? Could the approaching European elections signal a positive turning point?

Guests: Jan Spiewak (Wolne Miasto Warszawa), Karolína Farská (Iniciativa Za slušné Slovensko), Karoly Nagy (Youth organisation of Momentum party) and Václav Němec (philosopher, teacher)

Moderated by: Michael Žantovský (Václav Havel Library)

16.45–18.00 **Panel III Millennials and the Future of the EU**

For young people, the EU is an obvious part of their life. How do they view it, and how do they see its future? How do they perceive the approaching European elections? Are they automatically pro-European? What can they do so that other countries do not follow the example of Great Britain? What specific steps and recommendations do young people have for both the EU and their peers?

Guests: Kovy (YouTuber), Jaroslav Miller (Palacký University in Olomouc), Barbora Kollárová (Václav Havel Library essay contest finalist) and Vojtěch Dyk (singer)

Moderated by: Zuzana Tvarůžková (Czech Television)

18.00–18.15 **Closing address: Tomáš Petříček** (Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs)

18.15–20.00 **Evening program:** Beer, sausages, tolerance (musical program: The Odd Gifts)

**EVROPSKÉ DIALOGY
VÁCLAVA HAVLA 2019**

**Evropská unie mezi
včerejškem a zítřkem**

20. 5. 2019

DOX+, POUPĚTOVA 3, PRAHA
ORGANIZÁTOR: Knižovna Václava Havla

PARTNERI: Evropská komise – Zastoupení v České republice
DOX Centrum současného umění
Ministerstvo zahraničních věcí ČR
Kancelář Evropského parlamentu v ČR

„Vše nasvědčuje tomu, že se nemusíme bát snít o zdánlivě nemožném, chceme-li, aby se zdánlivě nemožné stalo skutečností. Bez snění o lepší Evropě nikdy lepší Evropu nevybudujeme.“

VÁCLAV HAVEL, PROJEV V RADĚ EVROPY, 10. KVĚTNA 1990

Evropské dialogy Václava Havla jsou mezinárodní projekt, který podporuje otevřenou diskusi o aktuálních tématech ovlivňujících další směřování současné Evropy s přihlédnutím k duchovnímu odkazu Václava Havla.

V roce 15. výročí vstupu do EU a pouhé čtyři dny před důležitými volbami do Evropského parlamentu se chceme společně zamyslet nad bilanci České republiky v Evropské unii a Evropské unie v České republice i ve střední Evropě a zároveň se zahledět do budoucnosti, a to zejména očima mladých lidí, jejichž životy bude EU ovlivňovat.

VÁCLAV HAVEL EUROPEAN DIALOGUES | BRUSSELS 2019

Europe 1989-2019:

How to sustain the path towards Europe Whole and Free?

20th November 2019
18:00 - 20:30 followed by a glass of wine

House of European History
Rue Belliard 135
1000 Brussels

Photo: "Havelův protest", Pavel Hrozný / Václav Havel Library

The conference *The EU Between Yesterday and Tomorrow* took place in cooperation with the European Commission – Representation in the Czech Republic, the Office of the European Parliament in the Czech Republic, DOX Centre for Contemporary Art and the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

20. 11. | House of European History, Brussels
Europe 1989-2019: How to sustain the path towards Europe whole and free?

Program

17.45

Registration

18.00

Opening

Jakub Dürr, Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the EU
Pavel Klucký, ambassador of the Czech Republic in Brussels

Opening address

Michael Žantovský, discussion chair, Director of the Václav Havel Library

18.10

Panel I

Guests: Marek Belka, Michal Šimečka, Jamie Fly

19.15

Panel II

Guests: Frans Timmermans, Alexandr Vondra, Nathalie Loiseau

„Předem najisto prohraný může být jen jediný zápas: ten, který předem vzdáme.“
Václav Havel: Letní přemítání, 1991

Cena Václava Havla za lidská práva 2019
ODE ZDI KE ZDI

7. ročník konference k poctě laureáta
Středa 2. října, 13.00–18.00
Pražská křižovatka, Zlatá 1, Praha 1

The conference *Europe 1989-2019: How to sustain the path towards Europe whole and free?* was held in cooperation with the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU, the Czech Embassy in Belgium, the Czech Centre, Brussels, the Václav Havel Library and the House of European History.

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, provided that none of them is 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 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 seventh year of the award was open from the first half of January to the end of May 2019. On the basis of nominations received by 27 August 2019, the seven-member expert committee selected and informed the trio of finalists:

Ilham TOHTI (China)

A renowned Uyghur public intellectual in China, he has worked for over 20 years on the situation of the Uyghur minority and on fostering inter-ethnic dialogue and understanding in China. In September 2014 he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Buzurgmehr YOROV (Tajikistan)

A human rights lawyer in Tajikistan who has represented, for nearly 20 years, individuals persecuted for their political beliefs and activism. He is a vocal opponent of the government and has publicly condemned the government and state agencies for human rights abuses. In 2015, he was sentenced to 28 years in jail.

Youth Initiative for Human Rights

The YIHR was established in 2003. It promotes reconciliation through building connections between young people in the Balkans from different ethnic groups, regions and countries. It tries to enhance their participation in the transformation of the judicial system and to build links that will limit the ethnic conflict that devastated the region for so many years.

Uyghur public intellectual Ilham Tohti and the YIHR were named laureate for 2019. “The bestowal of the award on both a long-standing Uyghur human rights defender and a group of young activists fighting for understanding and reconciliation in the Western Balkans graphically illustrates the universal nature



Enver Can, member of the Ilham Tohti Initiative.



Jamshad Yorov, brother of Buzurgmehr Yorov.



Ivan Djuric, Program Director of YIHR Serbia.



Karel Schwarzenberg delivered the closing address at the conference.

of human rights, regardless of geography, religion, culture, age or political system,” said jury member and Václav Havel Library director Michael Žantovský on this year’s bestowal of the VH Prize.

The Václav Havel Library organized a conference entitled *From Wall to Wall* in honour of the laureates. It took place on Wednesday 2 October 2019 at the Prague Crossroads and was summed up by the following text: Thirty years ago, on November 9, the Berlin Wall came down, and the last remnants of the communist nightmare, that held Central and Eastern Europe in its grip, came down with it. This historic change seemed to have ushered in an era of openness, tolerance and mutual respect between people, countries and cultures. Thirty years later, however, the metaphor of walls has made a comeback in more than one sense. Tolerance is giving way to bigotry, distrust and polarization between political opponents, lifestyles and social groups. Openness to others, be they migrants, minorities or religions, is under attack. And respect has been replaced by vulgar attacks, hoaxes and fake news.

Fundamental human liberties, be they freedom of expression, freedom of thought or freedom of choice, are no longer taken for granted in some countries in the West and are denied to hundreds of millions of people in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America.

The time has come for those of us who believe in the intrinsic value of human rights to paraphrase the famous appeal by Ronald Reagan to Mikhail Gorbachev: “Tear down these walls.”

Program

- 13.00 **OPENING**
Michael Žantovský, Director of the Václav Havel Library (CZ)
- 13.10–13.30 **OPENING ADDRESS**
Yik Mo Wong, Human Rights Activist, Vice Convener of Civil Human Rights Front (Hong Kong)
- 13.30–14.45 **PANEL I: Discussion with 2019 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize Finalists**
Guests: Enver Can, member of the Ilham Tohti Initiative, representative of Ilham Tohti (China) - Uyghur scientist and economist, in prison since 2014, sentenced to life imprisonment
Jamshad Yorov, brother of Buzurgmehr Yorov (Tajikistan) - human rights lawyer, in prison since 2015, sentenced to 28 years
Youth Initiative for Human Rights (Balkan countries): Ivan Djuric – Program Director YIHR Serbia

Moderated by: Michael Žantovský, Václav Havel Library (CZ)

15.00–16.15

PANEL II: Walls Old and New

Guests: Daniel Brössler – journalist (Germany)
Mátyás Eörsi – politician and lawyer (Hungary)
Bernard Guetta – journalist (France)
Martin Milan Šimečka – writer and journalist (Slovakia)

Moderated by: Kateřina Šafaříková – journalist, Respekt weekly (CZ)

A new iron curtain seems to be emerging in the East. The unstable but open situation that emerged after the Russian occupation of Crimea and its support of the armed insurrection in Eastern Ukraine has been replaced by a situation which may be more stable but impossible to change. Even some of the European institutions seem to give a priority to stability over change, as witnessed by the return of Russia's voting rights by the Council of Europe. In this situation, hundreds of thousands of people are deprived of security, living standards and human rights. The rise of intolerance has led to the re-emergence of political violence and hate crimes in a number of European countries. The rising number of anti-Semitic attacks in France, the murders of the Slovak investigative journalist Kuciak and his girlfriend, the assassination of the mayors of Gdansk and Kassel, and even the smaller but disturbing incidents in our own country can no longer be seen as isolated incidents but as a part of an ominous trend. What can politicians do to stop it and what can civil society do?

16.30–17.45

PANEL III: Invisible Walls

Guests: Ljudmila Savčuková – journalist and activist (Russian Federation)
Patrik Oksanen – journalist and editor (Sweden)
Lenka Bradáčová – Prague supreme state attorney (CZ)
Bob Kartous – analyst, spokesperson for Czech Elves (CZ)
Moderated by: Tereza Engelová – journalist and TV presenter (CZ)
In creating a mental picture of the world,



Poster for a concert by the band Zrní that brought the conference on the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize to a close.



we increasingly depend on digital media for information, evidence and like-minded people. The right to free access to information is one of the most important modern human rights. That right is undermined when information is increasingly replaced by propaganda, hoaxes and fabricated evidence. It is also undermined when strictures of political correctness curtail the open discourse which is the only known path to knowledge and understanding. How can society prevent or at least reduce the damage done by fabricators, propagandists and trolls, without sacrificing the principles of free speech?

17.45–18.00 **CLOSING ADDRESS**

Karel Schwarzenberg – politician, diplomat, human rights advocate (CZ)

18.30 **ZRNÍ – HAVEL'S CHILDREN FOR HAVEL**

A concert by the band Zrní as part of the project Havel's Children for Havel (www.havlovy-deti.cz) organized in collaboration with the Václav Havel Library on the 30th anniversary of the fall of communism.

The Václav Havel Library abroad

- 26. – 31.3. Bohemists Conference, VHL presentation (Cairo/Egypt)
- 4. – 5. 4. Conference on the 30th anniversary of the fall of communism (Warsaw/Poland)
- 14. – 15.5. Conference on the anniversary of the fall of communism in Eastern Europe (Bucharest/Romania)
- 16. – 20.5. Dan David Prize for Michael Ignatieff (Tel Aviv/Israel)
- 08. 06. GLOBSEC (Bratislava/Slovakia)
- 12. – 13.6. Exhibition on VH – Czech Centre Milan (Milan/Italy)
- 5. – 8.9. Kennedy Summer School (Dublin/Ireland)
- 29. – 30.9. Council of Europe – Presentation of the 2019 VH Human Rights Prize (Strasbourg/France)
- 10. 10. The Power of the Powerless – disturbing the peace with Václav Havel – exhibition (Rome/Italy)
- 18.10. More than words – Frankfurt Book Fair (Frankfurt/Germany)
- 21. – 25.10. Lectures on VH - literary festival (Krakow, Poland)

- 01.11. Bohemicum Dresdense – conference (Dresden, Germany)
- 5. – 9.11. Literary debates – anniversary of the Velvet Revolution (Darmstadt, Hamburg/Germany, Basel/Switzerland)
- 7. – 9.11. Celebrations of the fall of the Berlin Wall (Berlin/Germany)
- 20. – 22.11. VH European Dialogues + meeting of the EP Network of European Political Houses and Foundations of Great Europeans (Brussels/Belgium)

Exhibitions

24. 4. – 22. 5. | Galerie Lucerna Flickers of Freedom, or The Late '80s in the Photographs of Miloš Fikejz

Reportage photography from a 1988 festival in Lipnice where Václav Havel appeared in public for the first time in 19 long years. Portraits of artists ostracised by the regime (Ivan Klíma, Vlasta Chramostová, Pavel Juráček). Photographic documentation of an interview given by Václav Havel to the “underground” Lidové noviny and the “Sand Pit” action organised by the pranksterish Society for a Merrier Present. The atmosphere of November 1989 in the streets of Prague. The theatres strike. Following the path of the “Havel to the Castle” poster – today quite iconic – that was made from a photograph by Miloš Fikejz. This exhibition in honour of the late film journalist, encyclopaedist and photographer Miloš Fikejz (1959–2019) was organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Galerie Lucerna.

The Depository

Throughout its existence, the Václav Havel Library has prepared and put on dozens of exhibitions. Some of them – focused not only on the life and work of Václav Havel but also on various cultural, historical and social phenomena in the Czech lands in the latter half of the 20th century – have become part of its archive. At the end of August 2019, we began to offer its free usage to other educational and cultural institutions via a digital depository (accessible via the Library’s website www.vaclavhavel.cz). There was an extraordinary interest in this service:

Záblesky svobody

aneb Konec 80. let ve snímcích Miloše Fikejze

25 / 04 — 22 / 05 / 2019

Galerie Lucerna / Palác Lucerna / Praha 1



„Myslím, že umění nikdy nevzniká z touhy dělat takové a takové umění... myslím, že umění vůbec nevzniká z touhy dělat umění, ale vždycky jen a jen z touhy [...] „polapit“ jaksi kus sebe, zptřtomnit, ozvláštnit a osmyslnit kus jakési skutečnosti, kterou jsme puzeni – dik vlastní vyšnitosti – zptřtomňovat.“ — Václav Havel: O umění (tak vůbec), Písmen 7, 1985 —



PALÁC LUCERNA



LIDOVÉ NOVINY



MILÓŠ FIKÉJZ

Výstava k uctění památky Miloše Fikejze (1959–2019). Římského publicisty, encyklopedisty a fotografa, pořádká Kolhozma Václava Havela ve spolupráci s Galerie Lucerna. www.vaclavhavel.cz



With a Passion for Freedom

The photographs of Pavel Hroch capture the events of the Velvet Revolution but also the period of transformation at the start of the 1990s when things that had previously been impossible and scarcely imaginable took place in Czechoslovakia: a period of joy, carnivalesque festivity, vision, hopes and great – and perhaps naive – faith in the future.

- 03/09/19–30/09/19 foyer of Petr Bezruč Library, Opava, 1st floor
- 30/10/19–30/11/19 Kinský Chateau, Valašské Meziříčí
- 10/2019 Library, Vysoké Mýto
- 10/11/19–17/11/19 Pětašedesátka, Úvaly

Flickers of Freedom, or The Late '80s in the Photographs of Miloš Fikejz

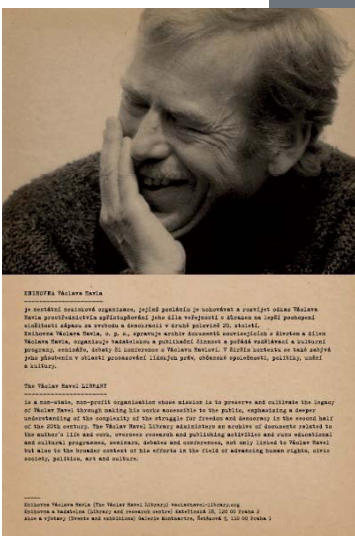
- 03/09/19 – 26/10/19 Galerie Hřivnáč, Opava
- 09/2019 Dům Štěpánka Netolického, Třeboň
- 01/11/19–30/11/19 Municipal Arts Centre, Hostovice
- 01/11/19–29/11/19 Municipal Arts Centre, Dobřany
- 01/11/19–30/11/19 SSJS school, Tábor
- 04/11/19–10/01/20 Municipal Library, Ústí nad Orlicí
- 14/11/19–19/11/19 SŠŽTS school, Šumperk



Hey, It's Havel!

An exhibition comprising a selection of photographs that reached the Václav Havel Library in the first half of 2016 as part of the *Hey, it's Havel!*, call, an appeal to those who had a camera with them, or a friend with one at hand, when they ran into VH.

- 01/10/19–30/10/19 Elementary School, Velvary
- 01/11/19–31/12/19 Municipal Library, Písek
- 01/11/19–30/11/19 Grammar School and Economics School, Sedlčany
- 01/11/19–31/12/20 Czech Centre, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 11/11/19–30/06/20 Hello Grammar School, Elementary School and kindergarten, Ostrava
- 15/11/19–30/11/19 Alfréd Radok Art School Endowment Fund, Valašské Meziříčí
- 17/11/19 TJ Sokol, Brozany



Samizdat and Dispatch Editions

An exhibition dedicated to the series of books and more established by Václav Havel and friends in 1975. In a highly attractive and accessible manner, visitors familiarize themselves with the production of banned books in normalisation-era Czechoslovakia and how they were smuggled abroad, as well as the people



who dedicated themselves to secret “underground” publishing and the dangers they faced.

- 21/10/19–31/12/19 Municipal Library, Žamberk
- 01/11/19–02/12/19 ZŠ, ZUŠ and MŠ schools, Frýdlant
- 01/11/19–30/11/19 SSJS school, Tábor

Havel in a Nutshell

A collage of texts, documents and photographs capturing Václav Havel as a child of a wealthy family of entrepreneurs, thoughtful teenager, stage-hand and man of the theatre, prisoner of conscience, last Czechoslovak and first Czech president, citizen, human rights advocate and a key figure of the history of the second half of the 20th century.

- 01/11/19–30/11/19 Library, Černilov
- 15/11/19–01/02/20 1st International School of Ostrava
- 17/11/19 TJ Sokol, Brozany

Anticodes

An exhibition comprising the most noteworthy visual poems that Václav Havel created, in particular in the first half of the 1960s. Playful, witty, apposite and also chilling.

- 01/11–30/11/19 Grammar School and Economics School, Sedlčany
- 01/11/19–29/11/19 Art School, Teplice
- 01/11/19–30/11/19 Industrial School, Prosek, Prague
- 01/11/19–29/02/20 OA a SOSŽE school, Žatec
- 11/2019 Jan Palach Grammar School, Mělník

We Had the Underground and Now We Have SFA

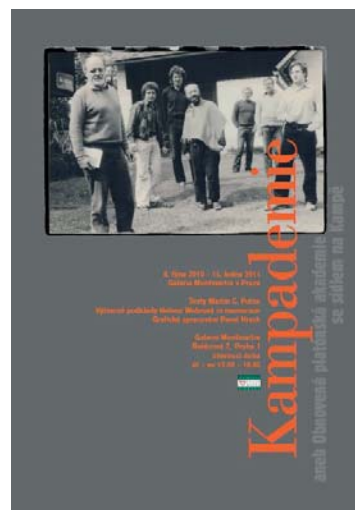
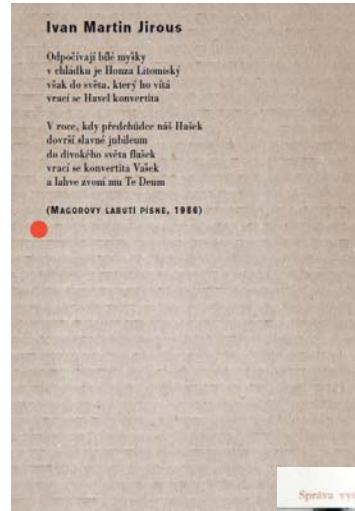
An exhibition highlighting the symbolic role that Václav Havel played in underground literature in the 1970s and 1980s. Artistic texts from Ivan Martin Jirous, Fanda Pánek, Egon Bondy, Vratislav Brabenec and Jaroslav Hutka are illustrated by the photographs of Bohdan Holomíček.

- 01/11/19–30/11/19 Industrial School, Prosek, Prague
- 11/2019 Jeronýmova Grammar and Pedagogy School, Liberec

I Just Cannot Live Differently!

A collage of period documents and photographs held to mark the 30th anniversary of the trial of the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Prosecuted.

- 01/11/19–02/12/19 Library, Pečky
- 11/11/19–29/11/19 School of Aviation and Information Technology, Odolena Voda
- 11/11/19–30/11/19 Elementary School and kindergarten, Velký Újezd





Jan Bernard and Anna Freimanová introduced the book *Václav Havel and Film* at the Václav Havel Library.



The Library was involved in the exhibition *Carnations and Velvet: Art and Revolution in Portugal and Czechoslovakia 1968–1974–1989*.

Plato on Kampa – LOTR at Hrádeček

A documentary exhibition exploring the Kampademia as a unique intellectual community active, outside official university structures, mainly in the 1970s and 1980s.

11/11/19–08/12/19 Galerie svatého Havla, Mladá Boleslav

Domestic events

21. 1. | Václav Havel: Tomorrow

As part of the season marking the 100th anniversary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia, we presented a stage reading put on by one of the top Czech theatres, Liberec's Divadlo F. X. Šaldy.

A historical meditation in five acts from 1988. The day is 27 October 1918. Alois Rašín knows that in the morning, it will be necessary to declare independence. But how does one go about that?

A somewhat atypical Václav Havel play – it is neither drama, reportage, farce nor historical mediation, but draws a little on each.

Director: Šimon Dominik; Dramaturge: Martin Urban; Creative Co-operation: Karel Čapek and Tereza Vašíčková; cast: Martin Polách, Štěpánka Prýmková, Přemysl Houška, Petr Hanák, Ladislav Dušek, Jan Jedlinský and Michaela Foitová.

30. 1. | Jan Šolc: To Live in Liberec

A presentation of *Žít v Liberci (To Live in Liberec)*, a memoir by Jan Šolc, who was a colleague and advisor of Václav Havel's, a spokesperson for Civic Forum and a Federal Assembly deputy and has lived in the city since 1945. As a teacher, mentor and discussion partner, he is most familiar with the young generation. In his book, he explores key milestones in Czechoslovak history, including the expulsion of the Germans and the period of Czechoslovak Stalinism, and describes the coercion exerted by the military counterintelligence and the persecution he himself suffered after 1968, as well as the enormous political and social changes that followed November 1989. He also remembers Václav Havel. *"Two years before his death I heard him lamenting as to whether it had been at all worth bringing back democracy. He was worn out, browned off and tired. Nobody knows what it means to be president after 42 years of repression,"* Šolc says of his friend.

The publication of the memoir of the Liberec philosopher, man of letters and political activist Jan Šolc was celebrated by the author and his friends, students and colleagues. Invited guests included Jan Kačer, Martin Vidlák, Libor Prudký, Michael Kocáb and Petr Pithart. Jáchym Topol served as host.



19. 2. | Václav Havel: Screenplays, Analyses and Reflections, 1957–1989

The launch of the book *Václav Havel a Film. Scénáře, analýzy a úvahy z let 1957–1989 (Václav Havel and Film: Screenplays, Analyses and Reflections, 1957–1989)*. The collection of works by Václav Havel includes research discoveries, such as previously unpublished screenplays and texts for and about films. It was edited by Professor Jan Bernard of the FAMU film school and published by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the National Film Archive.

Cinematographer Ivan Šlapeta and Dagmar and Ivan Havel recalled the playwright's filmmaking and acting efforts, including in *Every Young Man* by Pavel Juráček and the dissident video production *Long Live Fronda!*

From our archives, we screened, for the first time, the short film *A Fateful Night*, for which Václav Havel wrote the screenplay (1988) based on Vasilisa Bilák's memoir and which was made by Andrej Krob and the Divadlo na tahu theatre company.

30. 4. | Carnations and Velvet

A meeting with Portuguese guests who came to support the democratization of Czechoslovakia in December 1989 as young students. In a discussion with Velvet Revolution student leaders, they recalled a gathering on Prague's Národní Street, where the Portuguese presented those in attendance with 50,000 roses. There were special recollections of Václav Havel, whom the students met during their stay and via whom Havel invited the president of Portugal, Mário Soares, to his inauguration.

Speakers: Álvaro Bezeza, Diogo Cabrita, António Tavares, José Campelo, José Viegas, Paolo Barros Vale and, from the Czech side, Monika Pajerová and Martin Mejstřík.

Moderated by Jakub Železný.

The discussion was organized in connection with the opening of the exhibition *Carnations and Velvet: Art and Revolution in Portugal and Czechoslovakia 1968–1974–1989* at Prague's Municipal Library.

The evening was attended by the ambassador of the Portuguese Republic, Manuela Franco, and the Czech Republic's ambassador to Portugal, Petr Šelepá.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and the Prague Municipal Library.

10.–11. 5. | The VH Library at Book World Prague

A stand with Václav Havel Library produced books and accompanying program in the form of the launch of new titles.

Friday 10 May 2019

10.00 Professional forum / Václav Havel: It's Worth Doing! Ceremonial presentation of *Václav Havel: Má to smysl! (Václav Havel: It's Worth Doing!)*, a book of interviews with Václav Havel conducted by journalists from around the world between 1964 and 1989. Its editors, Anna Freimanová and Tereza Johanidesová, were in attendance. The event also included readings from the 1987 one-act play *The Pig, or Václav Havel's Hunt for a Pig*.

Saturday 11 May 2019

11.00 "Cooking the book" in the foyer / Wild Boar on Venison, or the Václav Havel Cookbook Presentation of *Kančí na dančím aneb Kuchařka Václava Havla (Wild Boar on Venison, or The Václav Havel Cookbook)*, a book of recipes associated with Václav Havel, whether in the role of a satisfied diner or a highly idiosyncratic cook. Introduced by Michael Žantovský.

15.00 Literary hall / Václav Havel and Film Launch of *Václav Havel a film (Václav Havel and Film)*, a collection of film reviews, essays and screenplays written by Václav Havel in the years 1957–1989. Guests: Author Jan Bernard and editor Anna Freimanová. The event was held in cooperation with the National Film Archive.

15. 5. | American Spring at the Václav Havel Library: Philip Roth – Great American Storyteller

On May 22 a year had passed since the death of Philip Roth (1933), one of the most important post-war US novelists. His life and extensive oeuvre, his close relationship to Czechoslovakia and more were discussed by Hana Ulmanová, an expert on modern American literature, Jiří Hanuš, translator of 12 Roth novels, writer Ivan Klíma, who was friendly with Roth from the early 1960s on, and Irena Pavlásková, who directed an adaptation of Roth's novel *The Prague Orgy*.

Moderated by translator Jan Zelenka.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the American Spring festival.

22. 5. | The Republic Awaits Us, or Where Is My Home

This show by students and graduates of the Na Popelce arts-focused school in Prague 5 began as a school production within a Václav Havel Library project centered on the 100th



anniversary of the country's foundation and inspired by Václav Havel's play *Tomorrow*.

Scenario and direction L. Tretiagová, musical collaboration M. Drdová, motion collaboration D. Králík, D. Ryska, L. Tretiagová and collective.

Performing, dancing and singing were: A. Tretiagová, D. Králík, V. Gajdoš, A. Hodková, O. Zavřel, M. Kučera, J. Kozáková, R. Žižková, V. Budinská, O. Stanzin, V. Bárta, K. Klibková, B. Vondráčková, M. Mihalčíková, T. Solarová, J. Podhorská, E. Vorlová, A. Solar, E. Pušová, C. Hodek.

8. 6. | Prague Museum Night

We prepared a selection from an exclusive, previously unpublished interview with Václav Havel recorded by Krystyna Krauze, a Polish opposition activist and later graduate of the FAMU film school and director, just days after Havel's release from prison in May 1989. For school pupils and students in particular we also offered short talks by YouTubers on selected events from 1989. Alongside the permanent exhibition Havel in a Nutshell, we showed designs for a new memorial to Václav Havel at Prague Airport.

17. 6. | Václav Havel: Audience

A legendary "Vaněk" play in its original rendition by Divadlo na tahu, featuring Karel Beseda and Radek Bár with direction by Andrej Krob and musical accompaniment from Obří broskve.

It is an odd period and everything is upside down. The banned writer Ferdinand Vaněk earns a living by rolling barrels at a brewery. His boss, the chief brewer, is unable to handle a tricky task "from above"... A beer-soaked clash between principles and a clear philosophy of life and a long-established system of circumventing principles and surviving without superfluous tenets or opinions reveals a monstrous power that twists character and suppresses the freedom of the individual. The one-act *Audience* (1975) was initially written to amuse the author's friends at Hrádeček but was soon performed internationally at a number of theatres.

5. 9. | There's Strength in Diversity! Václav Havel... or somebody else?

A debate on the anti-Communist opposition in 1989. After a gap of 30 years, the Czechoslovak anti-Communist opposition of 1989 may appear a philosophical monolith headed by Václav Havel and Charter 77. In reality, active citizens had been coming together in dozens of civic initiatives long before the Velvet Revolution. Despite the risk of police prosecution,

connected (or sometimes isolated) groups, as well as all manner of “lone wolves”, were involved in rich cultural endeavours, issued a great number of samizdat magazines and book series, organized petition drives and later the demonstrations that eventually rocked the regime. Various strategies of contending with the authorities can be observed, as can different levels of radicalism, from the Chartists and the underground to reform Communists, and from the church and the environmental movement to the student milieu, where some resistance was palpable until the last moment. Who had the greatest influence in the opposition? What opposition methods seem the most effective today? Was cooperation between opposition groups always harmonious? Or were there generational clashes between established dissidents and the emerging generation? And did Václav Havel and the Charter 77 veterans have any competition?

Jáchym Topol moderated this debate with people who were there, including Monika MacDonagh-Pajerová, Petr Placák, Alexandr Vondra, Daniel Kroupa and Luboš Dobrovský.

12. 9. | ABCZ, OR H jako Havel

ABCZ aneb H jako Havel (ABCZ, or H like Havel) is a Czech-English illustrated alphabet book for all ages that maps Czech cultural identity in a playful form. Each letter of the alphabet is represented by key watchwords and supplemented by illustrations. The book, which received a prize for most beautiful Czech textbook of 2018, was presented to the Czech public for the first time in the presence of the author and illustrators. Erik Tabery introduced the publication.

Writer Denisa Šedivá has worked in the non-profit sector and in the state administration, mainly on projects in the fields of culture and ethnic minorities. For the previous seven years she lived in Brussels with her husband Jiří Šedivý, the Czech ambassador to NATO. Her first book *My a jóga aneb klidná cesta k mateřství (Yoga and Us, or A Serene Path to Motherhood)* (2013) was also judged the most beautiful Czech book of the year in the textbook category.

Adam Macháček and Sébastien Bohner are graphic designers and work alongside Petr Bosák and Robert Jansa in the studio 20YY Designers. They are chiefly focused on designing publications, exhibitions, visual identities and illustrations.

1. 10. | Audience

Václav Havel’s tragicomedy about beer, human weakness and totalitarianism and more, as performed by the Holešov-based Divadelní studio Viktorka.

Jana Soprová wrote the following of the production in *Divadelní noviny*: “Directed by Konrád Popel, Roman Juráň as *Sládek* and Jakub Leška as *Vaněk* brought to the stage a jovial Moravian brew-master and a delicate intellectual, imbuing these most familiar characters with previously unseen colours. The erotic moment of *Sládek’s* desire, when alongside his beer drinking a fetching portrait of actress Jiřina Bohdalová fills his dreams, is reinforced. For his part, *Vaněk* acts out his discomfort by pouring beer into every available kind of vessel.”

24. 10. | Václav Havel Edition Live

Presentation of a translation series and discussion with its authors. The series Václav Havel Edition builds on the intellectual legacy of a philosopher, dramatist, dissident and president whose name the series bears. It presents various perspectives from leading figures from the Central European sphere in the fields of contemporary philosophy, sociology, art, culture, architecture and the latest general history.

Guests: Miroslav Petříček, Karel Hviždala, Matěj Spurný and others. The debate was chaired by radio and TV presenter Jakub Železný. Jiří Stivín provided musical accompaniment.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and Nakladatelství Karolinum publishers.

31. 10. | Havel in America

The authors of the book *Havel v Americe (Havel in America)*, Lenka Kabrhelová and Rosamund Johnston, discussed the intellectual legacy of Václav Havel in the United States with Petr Pithart and other guests.

The book delivers the testimonies of politicians Bill Clinton and Madeleine Albright, historian Timothy Snyder and singer Suzanne Vega, who knew the Czech president very well. How do they perceive the role of Václav Havel? What do they find inspirational about Havel’s philosophy? And can his ideas speak to today’s divided society? The book, which grew out of the Havel Conversations project, was launched after the panel discussion.

The debate was moderated by Czech Radio journalist Jan Bumba. Organized in cooperation with Host publishing house and the Václav Havel Library Foundation in New York.

11. 11. | Europe Without the Iron Curtain: 30 Years of Freedom

A conference organized by Czech Radio Plus brought to Prague major players in the revolutionary year of 1989 as well as sociologists, political scientists and historians monitoring developments in Central Europe and the Western world.

the Civic Forum was born at the Činoherní klub theatre. It led the revolution to victory and opened a new, democratic chapter in Czech history. Following a day of celebrations, marches and reminiscences, around 200 people met at the Činoherní klub on Sunday 17 November 2019 for an evening of period footage, recollections of participants on that fatal evening at the same venue 30 years earlier, the music of that time and an examination of the raw reality of the present day.

Among those who spoke were Martin Palouš, Edward Lucas, Timothy Garton Ash, Alexandr Vondra, Michael Žantovský and representatives of the civic groups Million Moments for Democracy, Národní Promenade and Festival of Freedom, as well as other civic initiatives.

Musical accompaniment took the form of Jiří Černý's Civic Disco and Vladimír Merta's stirring songs.

20. 11. | Václav Havel: The Beggar's Opera – A Play About Morality and Manipulation

A discussion about a new radio recoding (premiered on Czech Radio on 16 November).

Václav Havel wrote his version of The Beggar's Opera in 1972 after being commissioned by the Činoherní klub theatre, though it was not performed until 1975 when the theatre Divadlo na tahu staged it in Horní Počernice, directed by Andrej Krob. It was filmed by Jiří Menzel in 1991.

The new CD was presented by actors Jiří Dvořák, Dana Černá and Klára Sedláčková-Oltová, director Lukáš Hlavica and dramaturge Renata Venclová.

Moderated by Robert Tamchyna.

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

On-line projects

www.havlovy-deti.cz

A joint concert project of the Václav Havel Library and the band Zrní, who characterized it with the following words at the very beginning: "In the 1980s all of us in the band were six or seven, so we weren't able to grasp what was going on. Our world was still tiny, made up of separate situations and stuff. It ended on the outskirts of our town, with satellites on cottages and at grannies' places, somewhere in the distance. But our parents experienced the change at that time keenly and passed that euphoria on to us. They tried to explain to us something bad that had lasted an awfully long time had ended – that freedom was beginning.

We didn't know what freedom or repression meant, but we were really delighted with them. Václav Havel embodied that period for us and that's why we liked him. As somebody brave but at the same time modest, smiley but at the same time a battler. We wore Civic Forum badges proudly on our sweaters and made the V sign with our fingers.

And now that we observe the world a few centimetres higher and can see a little further, when we see crazy reports from countries where liberty doesn't live, how easy it is to lose freedom and how hard it is to get it back, and how easy it is to forget, we feel how important it is to live in freedom and to remember that breakthrough year. To be grateful for it. To appreciate the resolve and strength of people who fought for freedom then, to thank them and to stand behind them loudly. So we're celebrating this anniversary with the guys with intimate concerts for Václav Havel. In his apartment, in the jail he was in, at the cottage he spent time at. We'll play for him and in doing so, stand up for the values that he spread and for which he fought.

We're Havel's children and we're proudly declaring that with these concerts."

www.vaclavhavel.cz/cs/vzdelavani/depozitar

A digital depositary of exhibitions that the VH Library has been offering free of charge to arts and educational institutions since August 2019. For more, see the Documentation Centre section, p. 16.

www.denikrevoluce.cz

A unique chronicle of the final months of 1989 put together by Václav Havel's then secretary, Vladimír Hanzel, from his own recollections, photographs, documents and audio recordings. "I've had many professions in my life. I've been a tram driver, salesman at a stand at the National Museum, programmer, cleaner, mathematician analyst, music journalist and critic. It never occurred to me that I could also be a secretary to the president. But the strange workings of fate brought that about. First, I was the secretary of a dissident and when the dissident turned into the president I became secretary to the president literally overnight. And I stayed a secretary for 13 long years. In that position, I experienced many ground-breaking as well as utterly banal situations and out of the blue found myself at the epicenter of great political and social changes in our country. During the subsequent 25 years, I've made partial testimonies and published minor recollections. Now I've been asked by the Václav Havel Library to make use of my recollections and



OBČANSKÉ PROVOLÁNÍ

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materials (image and audio) memorialising those revolutionary happenings, meaning events principally relating to Václav Havel. I'll give it a try." Vladimír Hanzel

www.havelnavzdy.cz

A Václav Havel Library donating site ceremonially launched on 5 November 2019

During the 15 years of its existence, the Václav Havel Library has won a firm place in the public consciousness. It has become an important crossroads where all kinds of opinions collide without prejudice, where talks alternate with debates, readings, concerts, theatre performances and happenings, and where interesting people from around the entire world can be encountered day after day. In addition, it offers video recordings of its evening events at its website www.vaclavhavel.cz, loans out exhibitions, facilitates research in its digital archive and provides educational services in the form of video mini-series.

"I believe that we are succeeding in fulfilling the vision of Václav Havel, who declared when the Library was founded that it only made sense as a vital organism that occupies a place that cannot be overlooked in overall public and political life," says Library director Michael Žantovský. "We take this as an obligation and an inspiration for the future. We would like to make use of recordings of hundreds of our events on our own internet television channel, to extend our publishing program, to prepare further e-learning series and to begin running workshops for teachers... However, all this requires considerable funding. Therefore we have decided, to turn to our visitors and followers with an appeal for support."

Our donations website – www.havelnavzdy.cz – refers not only to one of the main missions of the Library, which is to take care of the legacy of the first post-1989 president, but also underlines the fact that Václav Havel's ideas on the universal significance of human rights, democracy and civil society are still relevant. Perhaps more so than ever before.

www.provolani19.cz

A civic appeal published in the form of an online petition (signed by more than 3,000 people by the end of the year) aimed at rousing Czech society: "The Czech Republic must not become a place where wilful politicians, cynical opportunists, behind-the-scenes godfathers and traders in poverty rule the 'lower 10 million', i.e., the people who create all social and economic values through their work, creativity and care for their families and loved ones. We want to be a country for all 10 million that does not forget anyone."



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 Havel. Within its framework, events are held at the Library's premises that are targeted particularly at students and those interested in literature, theatre, contemporary history, political debate and general social themes.

Human rights at home and abroad

5. 3. | Thank You, Czech Republic, for Supporting Tibet

The President of the Central Tibetan Administration and political successor to His Holiness the Dalai Lama expressed his sincere gratitude to the Czech Republic, all its institutions and individuals who have supported the Tibetan cause and contributed towards resolving the Tibetan issue. The event was held in English.

Program:

Speech by Sikyong Dr.Lobsang Sangay, President of the Central Tibetan Administration, friend of the Czech Republic
Tibetan dance performed by the Cholsum Shapdro Austria company
Organized by: Tibetan Association of the Czech Republic
Partners: Václav Havel Library, One World Film Festival and Forum 2000

14. 3. | Andrei Sannikov: My Story

A meeting with Andrei Sannikov and a presentation of his book. A political and social activist, Andrei Sannikov is the coordinator of the European Belarus social program and the Charter 97 initiative. In 2010, he stood in presidential elections in Belarus. After the rigged elections, he was imprisoned. He was released 16 months later following EU pressure and forced to leave Belarus. The magazine *Foreign Policy* described his autobiography *My Story*, largely focused on his opposition to Alexander Lukashenko, as a crossover between *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* by Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Nathan Sharansky's *The Case for Democracy*.

The book was translated from Russian by Magda Bělková.

Speakers: Andrei Sannikov, Jáchym Topol, René Levinský and Michal Hrubý.

Vratislav Brabenec performed on saxophone.

Kryšćina Šyjanok interpreted from Belarusian.

19. 3. | American Gypsy

Official launch of the Czech translation of the book *American Gypsy* attended by its author, Oksana Marafioti.

The book *American Gypsy* (issued in Czech as *Žij tam, kde jsou písně. Jak ruská Romka dobyla Ameriku/Live Where There Are Songs: How a Russian Romani Conquered America*) is narrated by an heiress to two ancient cultures; Armenian on her mother's side and Romani on her father's side. A childhood spent touring the USSR in the 1980s with her grandfather's Romani theatre was very much out of step with the conventions of real socialism. However, neither did the author fit in as the daughter of immigrants to the US trying to establish themselves in the field of traditional clairvoyance and love magic. The author Oksana Marafiot personally introduced her tragicomic book, which is about seeking and accepting one's own identity and 45vercomeing longstanding stereotypes, and also offers insights into two persecuted and relatively closed nations.

Karolína Ryvolová moderated the event, which was held in cooperation with the US Embassy in Prague.

21. 3. | Giving a Voice to the Repressed – The Restriction of Freedom of Conscience

A panel discussion focused on the human rights situation in China, Russia and Latin America accompanied by accounts of



Czech aid to Tibet remembered.

specific individuals and groups whose freedom of conscience has been restricted. Can we draw lessons from these cases relevant to our situation? Do we have freedom of conscience in our country, or should we be concerned about it? How is our freedom of conscience shaped by the media and power structures?

Speakers:

Tomáš Petříček (Minister of Foreign Affairs)

Ondřej Klimeš (Oriental Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences)

Valerio Mendoza (Venezuelan journalist and documentary maker)

Pavel Pokorný (member of the synod council of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren)

Ondřej Soukup (journalist, *Hospodářské noviny*)

Moderated by Lucie Vopálenská (Czech Radio Plus)

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Human Rights Commission of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren.

20. 6. | Uncovering Belarus

Over the last 10 to 15 years, Belarus has defied the stereotypes to become a hotbed of creativity and innovation with a booming IT sector, vibrant artistic and cultural scenes and an increasingly inventive independent media and civil society. This is a side of the country far removed from the “Europe’s Last Dictatorship” tropes we have become so accustomed to. The panel offered a window into this new and exciting Belarus.

Panel quests: Yanina Karalevich-Kartel, Belarusian activist and co-founder of citydog.by and its sister platforms Grassroots and Kak eto lyubit, Artiom Kontsevoi, founder of www.dev.by, the hub for all things IT in Belarus, Anna Loktionova, art manager and cofounder of the festival DOTYK, director of the Canteen_XYZ space in Minsk (2016–2018).

Moderator: Marina Puzdrova, Executive Director of Civic Belarus. The debate was held in English.

Civil Society

10. 1. | Debate with Respekt: Wagging Czech Radio

A debate involving Respekt editors and their guests on a topical issue.

Is public service media in danger? And what stirred the waters at Czech Radio’s Vltava station? What will public service media look like in Czechia in the coming years?

These and other issues were debated by Petr Fischer, former editor-in-chief at Vltava, Martin Groman, chairman of

the Ferdinand Peroutka Society and former editor-in-chief at Czech Radio 2, journalist Ivana Svobodová and Miroslav Dittrich, member of the Czech Radio Council. Moderated by Ondřej Kundra.

15. 1. | Republic Café: Waiting for Palach

The personal sacrifice of Jan Palach in January 1969 became one of the most powerful symbols of resistance to the occupation of Czechoslovakia and the onset of normalisation. The annual honouring of his memory was therefore understood as a political act and in January 1989, it escalated into several days of protest that were the biggest expression of resistance to the totalitarian regime since the start of the 1970s. The demonstrations' brutal quelling and police strikes led to further protests that foreshadowed the root and branch changes that followed 17 November 1989.

Last year also saw a major wave of civic defiance. Can today's protests and demonstrations, and in particular the reasons behind them, be compared to what was referred to as Palach Week? How do Czech and Slovak societies express their disagreement with the state of society now? What are today's motivations and expectations? And what is the response of the governing political elite?

Guests: Daniel Kroupa, politician, philosopher and teacher; Šárka Kružíková, translator and activist, Proč – proto! initiative; Mikuláš Minář, co-founder of the Milion chviliek pro demokracii civic group; and Juraj Šeliga, co-founder of the initiative Za slušné Slovensko. Actress and TV host Bára Štěpánová, one of the youngest signatories of Charter 77 and an active participant in Palach Week in 1989, chaired the discussion.

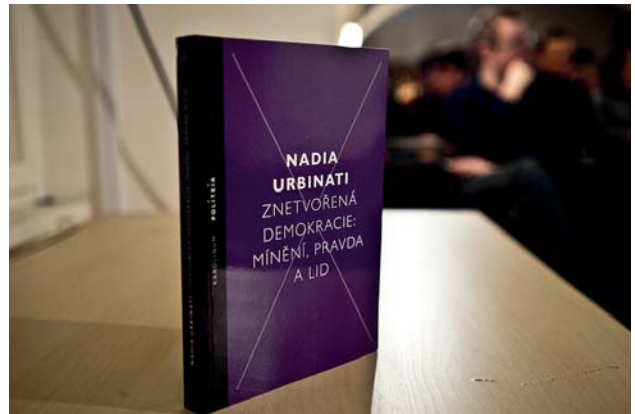
17. 1. | Nadia Urbinati: Democracy – Decline or Transformation

Contemporary democracy has been going through a series of crisis moments, from a fall in electoral turnout and a decline in party membership to the rise of right-wing populism. However, the question remains as to what these individual phenomena say about the state of democracy in general. Is what we are experiencing the gradual decline of democracy, or its transformation? And if it is the latter, what does it entail and what challenges does it bring?

A debate with the author Nadia Urbinati, a renowned Italian and American political theorist from New York's Columbia University, was chaired by the book's translator, Jan Bíba, of Charles University's Faculty of Arts. The lecture and discussion took place in English.



The Republic Café debate series (Bára Štěpánová, Šárka Kružíková, Daniel Kroupa, Mikuláš Minář and Juraj Šeliga)



*From the presentation of the book *Democracy Disfigured* by Nadia Urbinati of Columbia University.*



1. 4. | Poverty and Debt in the Czech Republic – The Parameters of Social Policy

The resolution of poverty and social exclusion in the Czech Republic is further away once again. In 2018, a safety net of benefits for the impoverished fell apart, while towns in northern Bohemia and northern Moravia have unleashed a tsunami of declarations of so-called benefits-free zones. Parliament has pushed through “new” rules on debt relief that have made insolvency inaccessible to hundreds of thousands of people facing multiple distraint actions. It has become clear that over 600,000 people are active in the grey economy in the Czech Republic. At the same time, the government has withdrawn a draft law on social housing and wants to support the construction of monitored social housing, which would represent state hostels, and to make ill-conceived changes to the benefits that are the central pillar of housing policy in the Czech Republic and represent a safety net for over 200,000 households in the country...

In this debate on the current social policy, we discussed the visible impact these events and decisions are already having in the field and what effects can be anticipated in the future, as well as what resolutions and measures the government needs to introduce to improve the situation surrounding social exclusion.

Debate participants: Martin Šimáček, Institute for Social Inclusion (IPSI), director; Alena Zieglerová, IPSI, employment expert; Jaroslav Valůch, IPSI, security expert. Special guest: Martin Nekola, Centre for Social and Economic Strategies, Department of Public and Social Policy, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Prague.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Institute for Social Inclusion.

4. 4. | Lenka Marečková: Long Live Society!

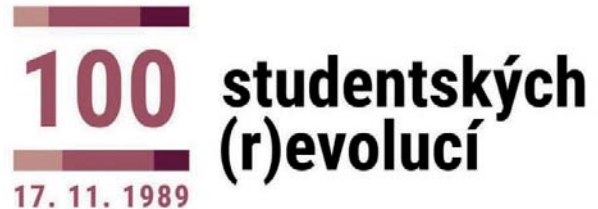
Presentation of the book *Ať žije společnost (Long Live Society!)*, an anthology of three poetry collections by Lenka Marečková. The writer, a Charter 77 signatory, was convicted and imprisoned in the 1980s at the age of 20 for her poetry criticising the country's then political system. In the book's foreword, Marečková, who is today a lawyer, writes: *“Democracy, sometimes reduced to mere mechanisms and instruments, is threatened both by growing problems and crises and linked calls for security (in the form of a strong nation or strong leader) and by the evisceration of its content. If we regarded the previous regime as totalitarian, we can observe today that what was sown then has now germinated and is thriving in a way we didn't anticipate then and couldn't have foreseen. Today nobody will lock me up over poetry. At the same time, I don't*

believe that today's injustices are lesser. They're just different. What's worth doing today? Way back, shouting sufficed... Let's look at where the roots of our troubles lie. At changes that would be worthwhile. At what needs to be abandoned and what transformed. Let's search together for the causes of this situation, ways forward and functioning alternatives. It's time to break the cycle."

Introduced by Jáchym Topol. Hosted by the book's editor, Martin Machovec.

Music and vocals: Dagmar Voňková and Oldřich Kaiser.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Kalich publishing house.



7. 5. | Civic (Dis)Obedience Across the Generations

What forms can civic engagement take? How are Czechs when it comes to getting involved in making changes? Is active citizenship a regular part of life here, or is it instead viewed as something suspicious?

Engagement in the public arena as one element of active citizenship was discussed by dissident and Charter 77 spokesperson Dana Němcová, People in Need director Šimon Pánek, Scout Institute director Miloš Říha and the Czech spokesperson for Fridays for Future, the secondary school pupils' climate campaign, Petr Doubravský.

The discussion was chaired by Martin Churavý.

During the debate, there was a projection of selected photographs from demonstrations and happenings in the Czech Republic and abroad by Petr (Zewlakk) Vrabec.

Organized in cooperation with the Good Will Committee – Olga Havlová Foundation.

24. 5. | Conference: A Hundred Student (R) evolutions

It is exactly 30 years since the Velvet Revolution. While the "big history" of 1989 has, for the most part, been examined by historians, the post-revolution lives of those who set the events of that time in motion are generally unknown. Now, however, they are at the centre of an oral history project by the Institute for Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Sciences entitled *1989 University Students in the Long-Term Perspective: Biographical Stories 20 Years Later*.

What are they doing today? How do they view the world around them? And has their personal experience of the Velvet Revolution helped shape this outlook? These questions and more will be answered by the authors of the forthcoming book



Sto studentských (r)evolucí (A Hundred Student (R)evolutions) (Academia, 2019), which follows on from the very successful *Sto studentských revolucí (A Hundred Student Revolutions)* (Nakladatelství Lidové noviny 1999 and Karolinum 2019).

Program

PANEL 1 Research framework

In the first block, the speakers focused on the broader research contexts of university students: in relation to their predecessors and forms of their self-presentation, the normative framework, the time-consuming nature of oral history and resulting issues related to changes in the interview team.

- 9.00 Opening: *Miroslav Vaněk*
- 9.10 *Pavel Mücke*: On history and the memories of students from times of “major” events in modern Czech history
- 9.25 *Pavel Urbášek*: Universities at a time of rebuilding and revolution
- 9.40 *Miroslav Vaněk*: Why students and why for a second time? Time-lapse and oral history
- 9.55 *Petra Schindler-Wisten*: How to jump on a moving train? Interviewers’ reflection and methodological aspects of research
- 10.10–10.30 Discussion, moderated by Jana Wohlmuth Markupová

PANEL 2 The Velvet Revolution as a symbolic centre

In the second block, the speakers attempted to identify the varied spectrum of meanings that the Velvet Revolution played or still plays in the lives of its actors on three levels: in relation to themselves and potentially other public activities; in their view of their own post-revolutionary youth and young adulthood in the 1990s; and in relation to each other and to the generations of their children and parents.

- 10.45 *Jana Wohlmuth Markupová*: Variations of revolution
- 11.05 *Veronika Pehe*: Golden ‘90s?
- 11.25 *Miroslav Vaněk*: Generations
- 11.45–12.15 Discussion, Moderated by Petra Schindler-Wisten

PANEL 3 Discussion with the participants in the November 1989 student strike

The concluding block (13.30–15.30) featured a discussion with the participants in the November 1989 student strike in which

Miroslav Vaněk spoke with Zdena Kolečková (Ústí nad Labem), Tomáš Ctibor (Prague) and Martin Štainer (Olomouc). The conference was organized by the Institute for Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Sciences in cooperation with the Václav Havel Library, the Faculty of Humanities, Charles University and the Department of Oral History–Contemporary History, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University.

28. 5. | Civics Teaching

Increasing numbers of organisations are highlighting the fact that civics teaching in the Czech Republic is a systematic problem that is having a deep impact on the behaviour of society. Unfortunately, many people do not understand the system in which they live. Distrust and scepticism then have a direct impact on election results and the degree to which we are influenced by fake news and populist campaigning.

Speakers:

Aleš Dvořák, teacher, former staff member at the elementary education section at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

Eva Lukášová, One World in Schools, People in Need

Jaroslav Poláček, TOPAZ

Alena Resl, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

Kateřina Semotamová, Botanická Elementary School, Brno

Radim Štěřba, Faculty of Teaching, Masaryk University

Debate moderated by Jiří Kozák, director of CEVRO.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the TOPAZ think tank.

12. 6. | The Middle Class at a Crossroads

A presentation and a debate centred on an exclusive sociological study carried out by the TOPAZ think tank with the support of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies.

The study was focused on the middle class – specifically on how it influenced May's vote and whether it is at all possible to speak about the middle class as a homogenous social group.

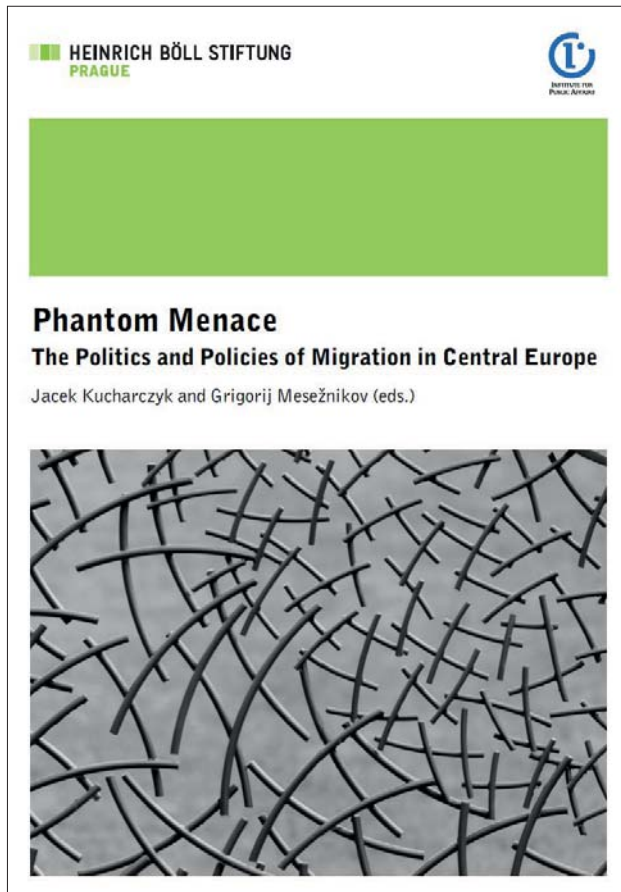
The results of the research may shed light on the attitudes of the middle class towards the EU and its impact on European issues, including in the context of the recent European elections, and suggest how to communicate further on European issues.

Guests: Tomáš Dvořák, political scientist, Faculty of Social Science, Charles University, Jakub Charvát, political scientist and expert on electoral marketing, Markéta Pekarová Adamová, member of the Czech Parliament, Eoin Drea, senior research



Does civics teaching work in the Czech context?

This question was discussed at a gathering organized by the Library in cooperation with the TOPAZ think tank.



officer at the Martens Centre, and Jaroslav Poláček, analyst at the think tank TOPAZ.

The debate was chaired by Petr Honzejek, a journalist and commentator with *Hospodářské noviny*.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with TOPAZ.

13. 6. | The Depiction of Migration and Integration in a Polarized Society – Where Are We Now?

A public debate and a presentation of the publication *Phantom Menace: The Politics and Policies of Migration in Central Europe* (2018), published by the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

Since 2015, when the so-called refugee crisis reached a climax, migration has become a key focus of societal interest and political debate. It has become a subject that deeply divides society, sparking fear in many and influencing politics and election campaigns and results, as well as greatly undermining the unity of the European Union. Nevertheless, in the last two years, the number of asylum seekers in the EU has fallen to virtually the same level as before the crisis and the subject is slowly receding. That said, a labour shortage and low unemployment in the Czech Republic is leading to a sharp rise in the number of foreign workers, and their integration will prove a fresh challenge to society.

How are those changes making themselves felt in the current discussion around migration? How is it being portrayed in the media now, what does it mean for Czech society and how will it influence the country's migration and integration policy? What role did the subject play in campaigning for the European Parliament elections at the end of May?

These questions and more were considered by Radha Sarma Hegde, an academic in the field of media, culture and communication at New York University; Grigorij Mesežnikov, director of Slovakia's Institute for Public Affairs and editor of *Phantom Menace: The Politics and Policies of Migration in Central Europe*, which was presented within the framework of the debate; Eva Valentová of the Association for Integration and Migration, who wrote one of its chapters; and Adéla Jurečková of People in Need, who introduced the NGO's current research into the media depiction of migration in the Czech Republic.

The discussion was chaired by Daniela Vrbová of Czech Radio's Plus station, who was an editor on the show *Zaostřeno na cizince* for some years.

The debate was organized by the Consortium of Non-Governmental Organisations Working with Migrants in the Czech Republic in cooperation with the Prague office of the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

24. 6. | How to Interview Politicians?

It is becoming increasingly more difficult to prove the truth in the public arena. How much is the media to blame for this, and how much its consumers and politicians? How should fake news and disinformation be handled? What to do when proven facts are called a purpose-designed campaign? How can politicians' genuine opinions be coaxed out of them?

The debate featured leading Czech TV presenters who experience these situations face to face with politicians on a regular basis: Světlana Witovská, Jindřich Šídlo and Emma Smetana. Chaired by Jakub Čaloun, chairman of the association Mladá Politika, and Jan Švenda, Mladá Politika's deputy chairman.

Mladá Politika

Panel „Jak zpovídat politiky“
24/06 v 19:00, Knihovna Václava Havla, Praha 1



Světlana Witovská



Emma Smetana



Jindřich Šídlo



16. 9. | Faces of Morality

Human decency – handicap or advantage? Or, can I survive in this society with ethical principles and a moral approach? A discussion with Marek Orko Vácha.

This gathering held in cooperation with ICF Czech Republic, the Czech branch of the International Coach Federation, was intended to introduce a person regarded as a representative of ethical behaviour and actions who is also capable of sharing his knowledge and experience in the field of ethics.

How does contemporary society view ethics, virtuousness and morality? How can a professional coach help spread ethical, virtuous and moral values and outlooks?

Marek Vácha is a Roman Catholic priest, theologian, natural scientist, teacher and writer. In the academic sphere, he heads the Institute for Ethics and Humanities of the Third Faculty of Medicine at Charles University, where he is also the chair of the academic senate. In the scouts he gained the nickname Orko, short for Orlí oko (eagle eye) and employs it in his name.

The ICF, or International Coach Federation, is the biggest professional coaches' organization, bringing together almost 3,000 coaches from all around the world.

17. 9. | Media Education in the Czech Republic

According to a STEM/MARK survey, one-quarter of the Czech population has low media literacy, while half have only medium literacy. At the same time, two-thirds of respondents claimed to possess good orientation in the media. Thanks to media illiteracy, disinformation websites and various populist movements are thriving in the Czech Republic. A sizable portion of the population have difficulties with disinformation, manipulation and orienting themselves in a sea of information. Media education is not taught separately in Czech schools but in a cross-subject manner, most often in lessons on Czech and civics education, and there is



How to improve media education in the Czech Republic was debated by our guests: Adam Balling, Michal Kaderka and Jindřich Šídlo.

insufficient time for such an important issue. Some surveys also report a lack of materials, teaching aids and teacher training. Our guests discussed how to improve media education in the Czech Republic, how teachers are trained at present and how they should be trained in the future, as well as what role formal and informal projects play in this and how hard the Czech government is working to push through changes in education. Guests: Adam Balling, a student at Charles University's Faculty of Pedagogy who is already teaching, Michal Kaderka, a teacher and designer of media education materials, journalist Jindřich Šídlo and others.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the project *Faketicky*.

14. 10. | Festival of democracy at the VHL

DEMOCRACY AND TRUTH

Values provide us with the motivation and means to orient our wants and decisions toward the future. If we speak about a crisis or a breakdown of values today, we understand that alongside values, the integrity of mankind, the quality of interpersonal relationships and the achievements of civilization are at risk. However, are we actually aware of what values are and what they are based on?

Guests: theologian and sociologist Tomáš Halík, philosophers Miroslav Petříček and Václav Němec

Moderated by Veronika Sedláčková.

The debate took place in cooperation with the WebDialog Foundation.

7. 11. | Like in Heaven, But Different

Lone wolves don't only live in the Šumava. Aleš Palán, author of the bestselling *Raději zešílet v divočině (Best to Go Crazy in the Wilderness)*, describes encounters with other solitary types living off the grid. He spent a year and a half visiting them in remote parts, from Chodsko to the White Carpathians, from the Jizera Mountains to the Beskids.

The book *Jako v nebi, jenže jinak (Like in Heaven, But Different)* includes an interview with a woman who has lived virtually her entire life in mountain solitude a few kilometres from the Slovak border. It also features a man who bought an old military vehicle 20 years ago and has holed up in it since then among the fishponds of southern Bohemia. We also visit the hermitage of a contemporary hermit, the Franciscan monk Anděl.

These encounters with Moravian and Bohemian loners are accompanied by singular outlooks, unrepeatabe life stories and a good degree of natural mysticism.

The main guest was photographer Johana Pošová, who took the pictures in the book, while the moderator was Denisa Novotná.

17. 11. | Thirty Years of Freedom – Live Czech Radio Broadcast from the VHL

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, Czech Radio's Dvojka station broadcasted a special edition of the program *How They See It* live from the Václav Havel Library. Zita Senková's guests reflected on the ethos and significance of November 1989, how Czech society and politics have changed, how the legacy of the previous regime has been dealt with and what freedom and democracy mean to us.

Guests: Jan Kubáček, Jan Švejnar and Michael Žantovský

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and Czech Radio Dvojka.



Jáchym Topol, Petr Placák, Petr Hlaváček and Jakub Patočka reflected on the last 30 years in the Czech Republic at the VHL.

20. 11. | Europe 1989–2019: How to Sustain the Path Towards Europe Whole and Free?

Thirty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Velvet Revolution, the conference summarized and analysed the transformation of Europe achieved so far. The dream of Europe "Whole and Free" seems to be fading away, despite the historic enlargements of NATO and the European Union. Besides Russia's coercive actions to prevent its neighbours from choosing this vision for themselves, there are new challenges stemming from the EU's internal developments, including Brexit. Guests: Commissioner Věra Jourová, commissioner Frans Timmermans, former Polish Prime Minister and current MEP Marek Belka, MEPs Alexandr Vondra, Nathalie Loiseau and Michal Šimečka, the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Director Jamie Fly.

Chaired by: Michael Žantovský, director of the Václav Havel Library

Co-organized by the Václav Havel Library, the Czech Embassy in Belgium, the Czech Permanent Representation to the European Union and the Czech Centre in Brussels.

21. 11. | Reflections on a Czech Thirty Years, 1989–2019

Thirty years have elapsed since the collapse of communism and Soviet-Russian hegemony in Central Europe and also since the renewal of state sovereignty and democracy in Czechoslovakia, or more precisely the Czech Republic. Currently, however, the Central European region (and beyond) is witnessing uncertainty regarding the functioning of liberal democracy, the process of European integration and the development of Western civilisation, despite the fact that the



The book *Elephant in Zemplín* is an intimate account of a landscape and people who live way beyond the horizon of public attention.

dialogue-based, reflexive and self-critical West remains quite a decent civilisation. These are some of the reasons for the creation of the publication *Nesamozřejmý národ? Reflexe českého třicetiletí 1989–2019 (An Uncertain Nation? Reflections on a Czech Thirty Years, 1989–2019)*, which attempts to examine our present situation critically and to identify important trends.

It was discussed by its co-authors: historian and philosopher Petr Hlaváček, journalist Jakub Patočka and historian Petr Placák.

Moderated by Jáchym Topol.

26. 11. | Humour in Revolution

If there is one thing the Czech nation can rely on, it is no doubt a sense of humour and exaggeration. The situations that Czechs wouldn't joke about are few and far between, which can be confirmed in many works of literature, or just by dipping one's toe in the Czech internet.

How effective is humour as a defence? Why does it help in difficult times? Do we really have a specific sense of humour? And has that always been the case?

The guests were all people who boast an original sense of humour: songwriter, lyricist poet and novelist Jiří Dědeček; psychiatrist, journalist and teacher Radkin Honzák; historian and political scientist Petr Koura; actress and co-founder of the Society for a Merrier Present Bára Štěpánová.

The evening was hosted by moderator and actress Ester Janečková.

27. 11. | Andrej Bán: Elephant in Zemplín

The face of Slovak society changed utterly in 2018. The murders of journalist Ján Kuciak and his fiancée Martina Kušnírová rocked the whole country and connections came to light between the mafia and top politicians. Andrej Bán witnessed all of this at close quarters, just as he did many other important events in Slovakia over the last 30 years.

Bán, a Slovak photographer and reporter mainly focused on war zones, knows his native country like the back of his hand. He has travelled its roads and dusty paths over three decades, during which he has come to know the Slovak people and their stories. His texts reflect the observant eye of the photographer, while for their part his photographs show the keen eye of an excellent narrator.

The book of reportage *Slon na Zemplíne (Elephant in Zemplín)*, published in Czech by Absynt publishing house in November 2019 in a translation by Miroslav Zelinský, is an intimate account of the landscape and people who live their lives way

beyond the horizon of general attention. It is a winding journey from east to west, from Čierna nad Tisou to Bratislava, but also a long pilgrimage through time, from Jánošík through Tiso to the 'Ndrangheta and "our people". Stories include a man who decided to live as one with nature near the village of Sečovce, swindled farmers and the agro-mafia and the Romany man whose torturing to death by the police touches on the Slovak tragedy of the aryanization of Jewish property.

The book is a colourful fresco of tales from the country that is closest to us but also the one we know the least.

hosted by Jan Urban.

Organized in cooperation with the Absynt publishing house on the occasion of the publication of the Czech translation.

28. 11. | On the Dole in 30 Years: Who Will Thrive?

We dreamt of becoming astronauts, refuse collectors, teachers – but what will our children or grandchildren want to be? How will the labour market look in 10, 20, 30 years? Will we have more free time? What professions will thrive, and are manual and repetitive jobs on the way out? We will search for answers in the company of experts in many fields and in a discussion touching on, among other things, new technology, which will also transform traditional fields such as health care, philosophy and media. How to prepare for the professions of the future will also be explored. Will work opportunities be available to all? And how is Czech education responding to this epoch of rapid change?

Speakers:

Václav Moravec, journalist, TV presenter and university teacher, who is working with Charles University and the Czech Technical University on bringing artificial intelligence into journalistic practice. Anna Hogenová, leading Czech philosopher and phenomenologist. Mikuláš Křen, from the company VR_MUSASHI, which focuses on new technologies in healthcare, such as the treatment of autism using virtual reality.

Moderated by Aneta Štokrová.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Faketicky association.

2. 12. | Civil Society Under Threat? Its Current Role, 30 Years After

From the Central European perspective, 1989 is viewed as a "year of miracles" when freedom and democracy were gradually established in the countries of the decaying Eastern Bloc. Newly acquired freedom also brought previously unimagined



Bishop Václav Malý and Paulina Tabery of the Public Opinion Research Centre at the Czech Academy of Sciences pondered the role of civic society today.



Eliška Peřichová, a student at the Jan Kepler Grammar School, won the 11th edition of the Václav Havel Library's essay competition.

opportunities and a group of former dissidents were involved in the birth of a nascent civil society. But after 30 years' actual experience of liberal-democratic rule, what really remains of that miracle?

The current role of civil society and its status today was discussed by Bishop Václav Malý, a member of the Board of Directors of the Committee of Goodwill – Olga Havlová Foundation, and Robert Basch, Executive Director of the Open Society Fund Prague. Paulina Tabery, Head of the Public Opinion Research Centre at the Czech Academy of Sciences, presented new findings from the study Opinions of the Czech public on the Velvet Revolution and on changes to the political and economic system. Chaired by Martin Churavý.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Committee of Goodwill – Olga Havlová Foundation.

2. 12. | Interviews From a Time of Tumult

How has the arena of freedom in our country changed over the last 30 years? In what state is freedom, both social and personal?

Rozhovory přes rozbouřené doby (Interviews From a Time of Tumult), a book of interviews with eminent figures in public life, offers reflections on the "arena of freedom" in contemporary Czech society. Each of the interviewees has a close relationship to our state's process of democratisation and a number were personally involved.

They include dissident and politician Luboš Dobrovský, former student activist and co-founder of humanitarian organisation People in Need Šimon Pánek, dissident and politician Petr Pithart, constitutional lawyer Jan Kysela, historian Igor Lukeš, journalist and writer Aleš Palán, political commentator Jiří Pehe, writer Mark Slouka, historian Timothy Snyder, documentarian Olga Sommerová, scientist and Roman Catholic priest Marek Orko Vácha and translator and journalist Michael Žantovský.

The interviews, with a foreword by publisher Aleš Lederer, were conducted in connection with the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution and the foundation of the PROSTOR publishing house, which was the direct successor of the samizdat series Prostor and a review of the same name, which began in 1982. The authors of the interviews were journalists Eva Bobůrková, Jiří Leschtina, Petr Placák and Petr Vizina, while the book also boasts a wealth of photographs.

Denisa Novotná chaired the evening.

5. 12. | The Face of Our Country

In 2019 the Václav Havel Library received a total of 60 student essays from 21 schools in 10 regions of the Czech Republic. The theme of the 11th year of the essay competition was “The face of our country, or How do you view the face of the country in which you live? Is Czechia an earthly paradise for the eyes?” The latest edition of the competition responded to current challenges in the area of the environment and climate, with students able to take inspiration from Václav Havel’s speeches on that issue.

The following eminent figures in Czech public life sat on this year’s five-member jury:

- writer Petra Dvořáková
- poet and musician Jonáš Hájek
- critic and editor focused on architecture and urbanism Karolína Jirkalová
- Respekt weekly journalist Ondřej Kundra (Německo)
- geobotanist Jan Albert Šturma

Overview of winners

- 1st place Eliška PEŘICHOVÁ, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- 2nd place Samuel ŠMÍD, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- 3rd place Runa KOBLIHOVÁ, Archbishop’s Grammar School, Kroměříž

The jury also bestowed three honourable mentions:

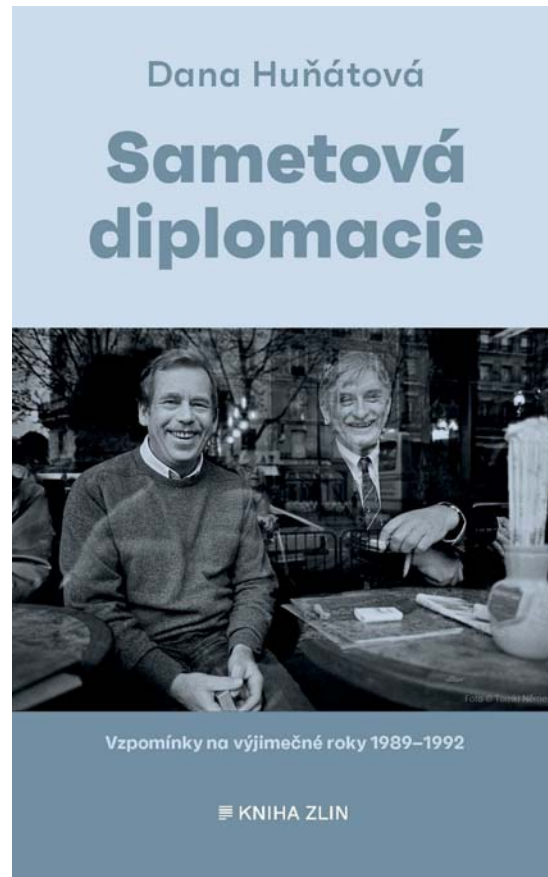
- Klára Hellerová, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- Alžběta Volhejnová, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- David Zeman, Brno Grammar School, Křenová

6. 12. | What is Coming from Moscow?

In what direction is Russian politics headed? What is the state of civil society? Is there any room for independent media? Do the opposition have a chance to communicate with their voters? And where has senator Smoljak’s coat disappeared to? A debate with senators David Smoljak and Marek Hilšer, who had recently spent time in Russia with government and opposition figures, whose experiences were complemented by those of Alexandr Mitrofanov, a journalist very familiar with the region.

11. 12. | Dana Huňátová: Velvet Diplomacy

From 11 December 1989 Dana Huňátová served as head of the office of the freshly appointed minister of foreign affairs, Jiří Dienstbier. In a book of memoirs aptly entitled *Sametová*




Masarykův ústav a Archiv AV ČR, s.v.i.,
Ústav T. G. Masaryka, o. p. s.,
Knihovna Václava Havla

udečal zvou na uvedení 24. dílu Spisů TGM

**T. G. Masaryk:
Hilsneriáda a texty
z let 1898–1900**


17. prosince 2019 od 17 hodin
Knihovna Václava Havla, Ostrovní 13, Praha 1

Přesentaci úvodou Marie Bahenská a Jan Zouhar,
publikaci předčítá vedoucí redakce Spisů TGM
 Jiří Brabec a editor Luboš Merhaut.
Účastí v Masarykových textů čte Petr Nárožný.



*„Já se vzdávám svým nájmům a tím a nepřehledným hrdlům ne-
ústupím. Že se nemí samostatně myslit a vědecky pracovat? Máje
kritika pravou původně je stejná vědeckou prací jako jiné ne prá-
vo vědecké. Inteligencia jsou lidé, kteří myslí, kdo neví, má také po-
stavení proti každému bezpráví a proti pověsti důležitých vystupovat
a pracovat? Někdy – to by bylo pravím zákonem moderního lidstva
mávnout, necht se jim dávat, spíše necht sebe samému. Zapi-
mínám, že kdo lze jít, že sobě, oběhová ohe ve své fantazii,
povolením miláček pudů, citů, nepřehledných, nepřehledných,
šlápy, nepřehledných.“*
(T.G. Masaryk 1899–1900)

24. díl Spisů TGM zahrnuje ve dvou svazcích Masarykovy titě-
ná práce z let 1898–1900, zaměřené především na témata socio-
logická, ověřená a politická. Rada více než stírci práci v tomto
rámci dokumentuje autorovo vysoceprní proti ritualist pověsti
a antisemitismu a jeho statečný polemický postoj v rámci tzv.
hilsneriády. Jeho oběhákem byla otázka vrdlávaní daru, vztahu
mezi buržoazí, inteligencí a charakterem národního citu,
potřeba orientace veřejnosti, každého „jen poukázání republiko-
človka“, snaha o proměnu českého veřejného prostoru.



diplomacie (Velvet Diplomacy), she lifts the lid on Czechoslovak diplomacy between December 1989 and the elections of June 1992, as well as casting light on the roots of a number of political disputes. The book's foreword was penned by former foreign minister Jaroslav Šedivý, who will help launch it, while the afterword was written by Madeleine Albright, a great admirer of Jiří Dienstbier and Václav Havel.

The evening was moderated by the book's editor Irena Tatíčková and writer Marek Toman read excerpts.

The group Tata Bojs provided musical accompaniment.

17. 12. | T. G. Masaryk: The Hilsner Affair: Texts from 1898–1900

“I will not allow myself to be violated by anybody and I will not retreat in the face of lies and misunderstood slogans. Are thinking independently and working scientifically forbidden? My criticism of the Polná trial is the same scientific work as my other scientific work. The intelligentsia are those who think. Those who think also have an obligation against every injustice and must stand up and combat superstition in a thoroughgoing manner! Don't lie! That would be the first law of a modern code of ethics. Not to lie to people but neither to lie to oneself. Let us not forget that he who lies to another lies to himself. He deceives himself in his imagination by allowing the lower instincts and feelings – unjustified, unconsidered, blind, unfelt.” (Masaryk 1899–1900)

The 24th edition of Works of TGM includes two volumes of Masaryk's published works from 1898–1900 focused primarily on sociological, educational and political themes. More than 30 pieces document the author's opposition to ritual superstition and anti-Semitism and his brave polemical stance during the so-called Hilsner Affair. His focus was the issues of mass education, the relationship between journalism, the intelligentsia and the nature of the nation as a whole, the need for the orientation of the public and each “only slightly thinking person” and the effort to transform the Czech public sphere.

The presentation was helmed by Marie Bahenská and Jan Zouhar, while the chief editor of the Works of TGM Jiří Brabec and the publication's editor Luboš Merhaut also spoke. Excerpts from Masaryk's texts were read by Petr Nárožný.

In cooperation with the publishers of the Works of TGM: the Masaryk Institute, the Archive of the Czech Academy of Sciences and the T. G. Masaryk Institute.

19. 12. | Young Czechs in Multinational Institutions

The focus of this discussion was the experience of working for the European Central Bank, NATO and the European Union, how the Czech Republic and its representatives are viewed at such institutions and whether nationality plays any role whatever in them. We discussed the real workings of multinational institutions and the myths commonly associated with them, while we also asked our panellists about their perceptions of the global role of these organisations in the context of recent news stories such as the withdrawal of US troops from Syria, the renewal of quantitative easing by the ECB and Brexit.

Guests:

Jakub Červenka, who works on stress tests at the European Central Bank

Vojtěch Hons, intern at DG NEAR at the European Commission

Linda Kunertová of the Economic Policies Unit at the European Parliament

Tomáš Opat of NATO's Policy Planning Unit

20. 12. | I'm a Gypsy Baron

An evening with Emil Ščuka, undoubtedly one of the leading Romany representatives today, on the occasion of the publication of his autobiography. Appearing alongside him was Martin Palouš, who brought him into Civic Forum during the 1989 Velvet Revolution and who later as deputy minister of foreign affairs negotiated with him on possible cooperation between the Czech state and the international Romany movement, which is still trying to acquire the status of a European nation for the Roma.

Vojta Lavička and his band performed during the evening.

Debates on topical issues – us, Europe, the world

22. 1. | Bernd Posselt: The Story of Europe

Elections to the European Parliament took place in May 2019. In view of the current political situation in Europe, these elections can be expected to set the future direction of the European Union. In his book *The Story of Europe*, Bernd Posselt, a former member of the European Parliament of many years (and a current candidate) and the head of the Sudeten German Homeland Association, returns to the roots of Europe and its leading personalities, including Václav Havel. He also sets out his own vision for Europe's future and explores possible ways in which Europeans could overcome their current



Jaroslav Šonka, Bernd Posselt and Milan Horáček discussed visions for Europe's future.



The religious and cultural life of the Uyghurs and other Muslim ethnic groups was the theme of our debate.

fragmentation and become a community capable of withstanding the demands of today's globalized world.

The discussion between Bernd Posselt and Milan Horáček (also a long-time MEP) was moderated by Jaroslav Šonka.

23. 1. | Edward Luce: The Retreat of Western Liberalism

A presentation of Edward Luce's book *The Retreat of Western Liberalism* with international affairs specialist Michael Romanov from the Political Studies Institute at Charles University's Faculty of Social Science.

The West's hegemony has gradually weakened, while at the same time other centres of culture and civilisation have become markedly stronger. To what degree has the economic and geopolitical decline of Western civilisation been linked to the development of individual freedom and the equal participation of citizens in political power? For a long time there was a prevailing, but unsubstantiated, belief that the West's success was primarily due to values that the majority of its citizens understood and shared. And that nothing could threaten the triumphant march of democracy and freedom. In his text, Edward Luce, chief commentator of the Washington office of *The Financial Times*, argues that reality has shown us something quite different.

The Czech translation of *The Retreat of Western Liberalism* was issued by the Argo publishing house as the first title in its new Crossover series.

Argo editor Oldřich Vágner introduced the book and chaired the following debate.

28. 1. | The Uyghur Region Under the Chinese Government: Re-education Camps and 21st Century Digital Dictatorship

The Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region is, like Tibet, a focal point of ethnic unrest in China. The oases bordering the Taklamakan Desert and the area of steppe in the Dzungarian basin didn't become part of China until the 18th century. Until recently, the Muslim ethnicity, Uyghurs in particular, predominated in Xinjiang. The Chinese Communists took control of the region in 1949 and, Xinjiang has been ever more closely integrated with the Chinese state since the launch of reforms 40 years ago. Its mineral wealth and fertile soil have attracted Chinese colonizers. The repression of the native population has led to constant tensions in the province, which escalated into unrest in Ürümqi in 2009 and a series of violent incidents and terrorist attacks. Since Xi Jinping took office in 2012, the situation

of Uyghurs in Xinjiang has rapidly deteriorated. In a spirit of new normalisation, the Communist Party of China is bringing back totalitarian aspects of Leninist state control. In 2014, the government launched, under the pretext of a “people’s war against terror”, an extensive campaign to tighten the control of Uyghur society and to suppress the Uyghurs’ religious and ethnic identity. To achieve this Chen Quanguo, who racked up plenty of experience with the earlier introduction of hard-line rule in Tibet, was appointed in 2016. Chen has created a police state in Xinjiang, employing state-of-the-art technology to control the “defective” population.

The establishment of “political re-education camps”, in which estimates suggest up to a million Uyghurs and other Muslims (roughly 10 percent of the whole population of native ethnic groups) are being held, is alarming. People frequently disappear overnight without a trace and it is unclear if they will ever return. The religious and cultural life of the Uyghurs and other Muslim ethnic groups is subject to ever stricter restrictions, which is having a destructive impact on their identity.

For this reason, Czech and Slovak academics launched an open appeal calling on the governments of the Czech Republic, Slovakia and China to shut down re-education camps for Uyghurs and other minorities and to respect internationally recognized human rights in China. After the signature drive concluded at the end of January 2019, the petition was handed over to its addressees.

The subject was discussed by Ondřej Klimeš, a Sinologist and Uyghur Studies expert from the Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences and an initiator of the appeal, Filip Jirouš, a Sinologist focused on the issue as part of the Sinopsis project, and Martin Hála, director of Sinopsis and another initiator of the appeal.

Kateřina Procházková chaired the debate.

29. 1. | French Uncertainty

Starting in November 2018, the *Gilets Jaunes* (Yellow Vests) protested against the growing cost of fuel and accommodation. Who exactly are these demonstrators and what are their specific concerns? Will President Emmanuel Macron withstand “the pressure of the streets”?

These and other questions were discussed by speakers familiar with the situation in contemporary France: Kateřina Lukešová, Lenka Zlámalová, Petr Janyška and Petr Fleischmann. Michael Žantovský chaired the debate.



Africa through the eyes of Pavla Jazairiová.



Journalists in danger (Šárka Kabátová, Pavla Holcová, Michal Badín and Jiří Kubík spoke).

4. 2. | Pavla Jazairiová: Another Africa

Jiná Afrika (Another Africa) by journalist Pavla Jazairiová, an expanded version of the successful book, is focused on the Northern and Western Africa: Mali, Senegal, Algeria, Tunisia. From many perspectives, Africa is a place of misery, despair and decay. This leads many Africans to wish to depart for Europe and begin new lives. Jazairiová's perspective, shorn of illusions or any hints of folklore, is a painful but valuable effort to avoid cheap moralising and to look for explanations. The book also includes informed glosses by Jana Hybášková, the European Union's ambassador to Namibia.

Pavla Jazairiová recently returned from Ethiopia and has an extremely fresh view of the issues that resonate in her book. Speaking with the author were Charles University African Studies expert Vojtěch Šarše and Islamic Studies and African Studies specialist Luboš Kropáček. The Czech Radio ombudsman Moderated by Milan Pokorný.

12. 2. | Debate with Respekt: How to combat online hate? And is it even possible?

If symbols of today's society are compiled in the future, the list will, unfortunately, include references to social networks and hate speech. This is confirmed by a recent case from the beginning of the year when the Czech courts made two convictions over hateful comments that the guilty made beneath a photograph of a baby born in Třinec in 2017 to a Czech mother and Kurdish father. The pair wished death on the child and referred to his skin colour. The relevant agencies are dealing with hundreds of such cases while more have not even been reported. Does justice exist in the virtual space? How often are posters of hate speech identified and punished? And what are the rules of discussions on social networks?

Guests: Nora Fridrichová, journalist, Czech Television, Lukáš Houdek, Hate Free, Klára Kalibová, director of In lustia, and Ondřej Šťastný, spokesperson for the Union of State Prosecutors.

Respekt weekly editor Andrea Procházková chaired the debate.

21. 2. | Journalists in Danger

It has been a year since the death of Slovak journalist Ján Kuciak. The talented reporter and his partner Martina Kušnírová were murdered on 21 February 2018. The investigative journalist wrote for the website Aktuality.sk and was writing about alleged links between the Italian mafia and top Slovak government officials. The crime rocked Slovakia, sparked the biggest demonstrations since the fall of communism and subsequently led to the resignations of interior minister Robert Kaliňák and

prime minister Robert Fico and the departure of police chief Tibor Gašpar.

Globally, a total of 80 journalists were killed in 2018. Another 348 were imprisoned and 60 were held in captivity.

Is the role of journalists becoming ever more arduous? Why is trust in journalists waning? What can journalists do to improve the reputation of their profession among the public?

Guests: Ján Kuciak's former colleague Michal Badín, a Slovak journalist from Aktuality.sk, investigative reporter Jiří Kubík of Seznam Zprávy and journalist Pavla Holcová, who founded the Czech Centre for Investigative Journalism and was a long-term collaborator of Kuciak's.

Journalist and documentary maker Šárka Kabátová chaired the discussion.

27. 2. | Evenings with Reporters: Poles and Czechs 30 Years Later

For Central European states, 1989 represented both a new starting line and the challenge of dealing with many internal problems. Thirty years after the fall of communism, Polish and Czech journalists and public figures discussed changes in the two countries. This yearlong debate series has grown out of cooperation between the Václav Havel Library and the Polish Institute in Prague.

In the same year (2018), reporters Marek Szymaniak and Saša Uhlová published two very similar books: *Urobieni (Manufactory)* and *Hrdinové kapitalistické práce (Heroes of Capitalist Labour)*. They capture disadvantageous contracts, unreported employment, employer blackmail and the flouting and circumvention of legislation. If before 1989, "work for all" was a centrally planned Communist promise and a threat, today the situation has turned around and we are voluntarily doing "all for work". Where have we got to?

Petr Vizina moderated the anniversary debate series.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Polish Institute in Prague.

Held with the support of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Czech-Polish Forum

11. 3. | Madeleine Albright: On Democracy and Dictators

Václav Havel Library director Michael Žantovský chaired this debate with Madeleine Albright. Afterwards, the former US Secretary of State signed copies of the Czech translation of her latest book *Fascism (Fašismus, Argo, 2018)*, which traces the paths to power of authoritarian leaders past and present.



Madeleine Albright during a discussion with students at Charles University's Faculty of Law.



Petra Královcová puts questions about contemporary Islam to Bronislav Ostřanský.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Charles University's Faculty of Law and the Argo publishing house.

The City of Prague was the partner of this meeting with Madeleine Albright.

12. 3. | Debate with Respekt: 15 years of Europe, 20 years of NATO – Czechia celebrates and contemplates what next

The Czech Republic joined NATO 20 years ago and the EU 15 years ago. Was this the culmination of Czechs' journey to the free world, or just the beginning? Isn't the nation once again at a crossroads, with liberty at stake?

Guests: Lubomír Zaorálek, former foreign minister, analyst Irena Kalhousová, Daniel Koštoval, former deputy minister of defence, and political geographer Michael Romancov.

Ondřej Kundra chaired the discussion.

25. 3. | Brexit and Europe Almost on the Stroke of Midnight

A month before the date set for the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union, nobody can say with any certainty whether Brexit will actually take place or, if it does, what form it will take: managed and based on mutual agreement, "hard" or even "no deal".

The impact of Brexit will depend on which of those scenarios comes to pass. However, the unprecedented level of uncertainty a few weeks before this key date points to a failure of politics and diplomacy on such an important issue for the future of the EU and the UK. Just four days before the set departure date, we considered how the "next day" was likely to look in London and Brussels, as well as in Prague.

Guests: Jakub Karfík, Director of the Northern and Eastern Europe Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tomáš Prouza, ex-state secretary for the EU, Alexandr Vondra, director of the CEVRO Institute's Centre for Transatlantic Relations, and Martin Povejšil, Deputy Head of Security and Multilateral Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Discussion chaired by Michael Žantovský.

26. 3. | The Limits of Investigative Journalism

An annual event bringing together winners of the Ferdinand Peroutka Prize at the Václav Havel Library. This time, it featured fresh recipients of the award Ondřej Kundra, from the Respekt weekly, and Jaroslav Kmenta, from the Reportér magazine. The focus was investigative journalism both in the present and in recent years. Is the role of such reporters changing? Are

there now better conditions for uncovering facts that politicians and state officials would prefer to keep secret? And how have possibilities of investigative journalism changed since Czech oligarchs and businessmen bought the country's major media houses? Is it better to write for small independent outlets or to have the protection of large publishers?

The debate featured Jaroslav Spurný of the Respekt weekly and Ondřej Neumann of the Hlídací pes website.

Evening hosted by Martin Groman, chairman of the Ferdinand Peroutka Society.

28. 3. | Bronislav Ostřanský: On Contemporary Islam

Presentation of the book *Současný islám: Tendence a dynamika (Contemporary Islam: Trends and Dynamics)* and debate with its author, the Arabic and Islamic studies expert Bronislav Ostřanský. The marked resistance met by Islam in the Czech Republic is matched in few small European countries. Why is this so? What are the current forms of Islam? And should we only fear Islam and Islamists? Instead of correcting the wide range of falsehoods and semi-truths about Islam and Muslims, which has become an essential element of public polemics on the subject in this country, the author attempts to arrive at a realistic "diagnosis". Ostřanský attempts to tackle apocalyptic visions of the "clash of civilisations" through a substantive overview of the subject, which had hitherto been lacking in the Czech language. His book looks at a number of key factors that help shape events in a major part of today's world, from the "erosion of authority" and the challenges of the "information age" to the battle for Muslims' hearts involving various interpreters of Islam.

Petra Královcová chaired the debate.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Academia publishing house.

9. 4. | Debate with Respekt: The Story of Russian Geo-Politics

How did the Russian idea take over more than a sixth of the world? This debate on past, present and future Russia was held in connection with the presentation of Jaroslav Kurfürst's book *Příběh ruské geopolitiky (The Story of Russian Geo-Politics)*.

Guests: Jaroslav Kurfürst, diplomat and author of the book, Ondřej Soukup, journalist, Daniela Kolenovská, Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, and Jan Šír, Department of Russian and East European Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University.

The debate was moderated by Ondřej Kundra.



The past, present and future of Russia.



A Debate marking the 20th anniversary of Czech accession to NATO (guests: Petr Kolář, Petr Pavel and Michael Žantovský).

16. 4. | Evenings With Reporters: Poles and Czechs 30 Years After / Change

Everything's going to be different from now on! The rapid transition to capitalism and pluralism kick-started in 1989 affected on the everyday life of every family, as well as the ideas about the orientation of the state. The philosopher and journalist Dariusz Karłowicz and the ex-director of Czech Radio's Vltava station Petr Fischer discussed how Polish and Czech societies have changed, looking at the clash of the old and new worlds and the search for models and paths to the future. Prior to 1989, we were building better futures – what are we building today?

For Central European countries, 1989 was both a new starting line and a challenge to get to grips with numerous internal problems. Thirty years after the fall of communism, Polish and Czech journalists and public figures are discussing the transformations in their countries. This anniversary debate series was organized by the Václav Havel Library and the Polish Institute in Prague.

Supported by the Czech Foreign Ministry's Czech-Polish Forum. The debate took place in Czech and Polish, with simultaneous interpretation provided.

23. 4. | 20 Years in NATO: Has It Been Worth It?

The accession of the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary to NATO 20 years ago was accompanied by the roar of the engines of Alliance jets, which were preparing for Operation Allied Force in the former Yugoslavia. The end of this period is symbolized by NATO's decision to accept Northern Macedonia as an expression of the continuing stabilization of south-eastern Europe. What led to enlargement and what was its significance for Czech, European and global security? What current risks and threats does the Alliance face and how should it respond?

Guests: Petr Pavel, army general and former chairman of NATO's Military Committee, and diplomat and consultant Petr Kolář. Moderated by Michael Žantovský.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the TOPAZ think tank.

23. 5. | Quo Vadis, Visegrad?

What ideas, frames of mind and visions circulate among the Visegrad Four countries? Is there something unique to Visegrad? Is there a unique perception of this space? Which issues connect Czechs, Slovaks, Poles and Hungarians today, and which ones divide them? These and other questions were addressed by leading intellectuals from the Visegrad Four states in a debate chaired by Michael Žantovský.



Guests: editor-in-chief of the Visegrad/Insight magazine and director of the Res Publica Foundation Wojciech Przybylski, Robert Schuman Institute director Gábor Berczeli and former MP and sociologist Ivan Gabal.

The debate was held in English without interpretation.

The event was part of the project Our.Future: Visegrad 2025, which is aimed at sparking domestic and international dialogue on possible future scenarios for the development of the V4 countries. It was organized in cooperation with the Strategic Policy Institute (Bratislava) and the Centre for Security Analysis and Prevention (Prague). The project is supported financially by the International Visegrad Fund.

27. 5. | American Spring at the Václav Havel Library: NATO – How It Was Back Then

A return to the hectic days of the Czech Republic's adolescence organized on the eve of celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the Czech Republic's acceptance into NATO. This gathering of representatives of the Czech Republic and the US lifted the curtain on preparations for accession.

Debate participants: Petr Bísek, publisher of Americké listy newspaper in 1999–2010, Karel Kovanda, the first Czech ambassador to NATO in 1998–2005, Julie Stejskalová, CTK correspondent in the US 1996–1998, and Alexandr Vondra, Czech ambassador to Washington in 1997–2001.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the American Spring festival.

30. 5. | Timothy Snyder: The Road to Unfreedom

A debate about the US historian's latest book.

Liberal democracy has not been the outright winner of the Cold War and the declared end of history never came to pass. Vladimir Putin has reinforced his position of power and fascist ideas about the need for a strong hand are once more beginning to resonate.

Russia is waging a cyber war on Europe and the US, using new allies among nationalists, radicals and oligarchs to undermine the trustworthiness of democratic institutions. This current trend has resulted in Brexit, Donald Trump, the general rise of populism and the increasingly palpable vulnerability of Western society.

Drawing on broad research and his observations of recent events in Russia, Ukraine, the US and Europe, Snyder points to the essence of the threat. He highlights the benefits of traditional politics and explores which of the choices on offer we



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ought to choose: equality or oligarchy, individualism or totalitarianism, truth or lies. The book is a compelling account of the rise of authoritarianism and delves behind the headlines to offer a way out of widespread uncertainty.

Timothy Snyder's *The Road to Unfreedom*, which was published in Czech by the Paseka and Prostor publishing houses, was discussed by historians David Svoboda and Petr Hlaváček, teacher and politician Alexandr Vondra and translator Martin Pokorný.

Chaired by Václav Havel Library director Michael Žantovský.

3. 6. | American Spring at the Václav Havel Library: Americans in Prague – What's the news?

An interactive panel with three distinctive U.S. journalists based in the Czech Republic. Besides the lost beauty of the Nineties, we discussed how the American media see the Czech Republic, what stories are interesting for U.S. readers, how American journalists view contemporary Czech culture and politics, how Czechs see the American community, and how the relationship has evolved over the past three decades.

The discussion was moderated by Czech reporter Veronika Bednářová.

Guests: Jeremy Druker, Executive Director and Editor-in-Chief of Transitions Online; Elizabeth Haas, writer and editor, author at Expats.cz; Evan Rail, freelance food and travel writer for the New York Times and other publications.

The program was held in English.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with American Spring.

11. 6. | Debate with Respect: Is the State Sufficiently Supporting Parents of Small Children?

In connection with the ongoing debate on increasing child allowance, the issue of how the Czech state supports parents, and whether it does so sufficiently, is again being raised. This particularly concerns mothers, who are still responsible for most of the childcare in the Czech Republic. Why are there so few places at kindergartens? And why don't employers offer more part-time jobs?

Guests: Filip Pertold, economist at CERGE-EI, Šárka Homfray, lawyer for the Czech Confederation of Trade Unions, Pavlína Kalousová, chairwoman of the organisation Business for Society.

The debate was chaired by Silvie Lauder.

10. 9. | Debate with Respekt: Is the Czech Constitution Becoming a Mere Piece of Paper?

Is Czechia turning into a semi-presidential system?

Guests: constitutional lawyers Marek Antoš and Jan Wintř, Miluše Kindlová, expert assistant at Prague's Department of Constitutional Law, and Václav Havel Library director Michael Žantovský

The discussion was moderated by Ondřej Kundra.

19. 9. | Conspiracy Theories: Secrecy and Power in American Culture

This event was the launch of the concluding meeting of COST Action – Comparative Analysis of Conspiracy Theories. The project, which aims at synthesizing and moving forward European research on conspiracy theories, has been running since May 2016. It comprises more than 150 scholars from 40 countries and more than a dozen disciplines.

After the official welcome by Prof. Peter Knight (University of Manchester), the Action Chair, and Prof. Katerina Kralova (Charles University, Prague), Prof. Mark Fenster (University of Florida), author of *Conspiracy Theories: Secrecy and Power in American Culture* (2nd ed. 2008) and one of the most prominent scholars in the field, delivered a keynote address entitled "Feed: Conspiracy and Transparency Amidst Information Abundance."

The talk was chaired by Prof. Michael Butter (University of Tübingen), the Action Vice-Chair. The lecture was followed by the official launch of the "Conspiracy Theories" book series, which is published by Routledge and edited by Michael Butter and Peter Knight, and in which the publications of network members and other scholars working in the field will be published in the next years. The series was launched by Prof. Peter Knight.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. The event was held in English without interpreting.

23. 9. | Journalism and Democracy in the Age of Polarization

A debate with Mark Thompson, CEO of The New York Times.

Both journalism and democracy are in the process of transition – and many would say in a crisis. Faced with the increasing dominance of digital platforms, the majority of professional news media are fighting for economic survival as well as for regaining the audience's trust, while many countries are witnessing the rise of populism and growing polarization, threatening the very foundations of democracy. How do journalists



Discussion with Mark Thompson, CEO of The New York Times.



An evening focused on the political situation in Sudan as well as Sudanese history and culture.

and media organizations respond to these challenges, and what can they do to bridge the widening societal gaps that are often exploited by populists? How can they counter the influx of disinformation and “fake news” while still protecting free speech? What is the place and future of traditional journalistic norms such as objectivity, impartiality and balance in an allegedly post-truth age, and in an increasingly polarized media landscape?

Guests: Mark Thompson, CEO of The New York Times and former Director-General of the BBC, Emma Smetana, journalist, DTVV moderator, Jiří Hošek, journalist, commentator at TV Seznam, Michael Žantovský, Václav Havel Library director. Moderated by Václav Štětka, media scholar, Loughborough University.

Organized in cooperation with the Sekyra Foundation and the Center for the Study of Philosophy, Ethics and Religion. The event was held in English without interpretation.

23. 9. | How to Win Elections or The Power of Political Marketing

How to create a political campaign? How much does a campaign influence the real actions of politicians and, as a result laws? What influence does political marketing and Facebook have? Is Marek Prchal all-powerful? The debate looked at how political campaigns have changed in recent decades, how much political parties are built on marketing, and much more. Our guests also shared their own experiences and offered advice on how voters should orient themselves in today’s environment.

Guests: Anna Shavit, Štěpán Štrébl and Martin Buchtík
Moderated by Jakub Čaloun, chairman of Mladá Politika, and Jan Švenda, deputy-chairman of Mladá Politika.

Organized by the group Mladá politika in cooperation with the Václav Havel Library.

30. 9. | Dissident in Sudan

A few months ago, Abubakr Abdelmagid was in a Sudanese jail because of his political views. He was released on the basis of an amnesty of political prisoners but returning to his homeland remains unrealistic. Abubakr Abdelmagid is convinced that everybody has the right to religious freedom and that religion may not be enforced by law. That is why he became active in the democratic opposition over 30 years ago.

He spoke about the political situation in Sudan, as well as Sudanese history and culture.

Petr Sobalík chaired the debate.

4. 10. | Silent Women

Silent Women in an era of cultural transformation and information warfare.

The Silent Women forum is attempting to build a platform for women who are looking for answers to the questions of today's modern era. An era in which all hitherto value concepts are subject to repeated scrutiny and challenge. The forum's aim is to support women in their efforts to acquire their own voice and vocabulary. Not via radical experiments but through a calm, factual discussion on the role of women in this turbulent period when ancient conflicts between the genders are misused and weaponized in hybrid warfare and propaganda. The forum wants to lead a meaningful discussion, find paths forward and contribute via a calm, society-wide dialogue to the resolution of the tasks before us on the verge of a new century. The issue of women must not become a battlefield of the culture wars.

PANEL I: The Abuse of Socially Sensitive Issues in Hybrid Warfare and Propaganda

Guests: Danuše Nerudová – rector of Brno's Mendel University; Alexandra Alvarová – author of the book *Průmysl lži (The Lie Industry)* and a specialist in hybrid warfare, CEW21; Jakub Janda, head of the Kremlin Watch program and director of the think tank European Values; David Klimeš – journalist, Aktuálně.cz; Adriana Černá – media expert, People in Need.

PANEL II: "Stolen words" as an instrument of information war

Guests: Magda Vášáryová – former diplomat, chairwoman of Živena; Diana Kinnert – German political scientist, advisor to A. Merkel and author of the book *Die Zukunft sehe ich schwarz*; Jana Ciglerová – journalist and expert on the emancipation of women; Jan Jandourek – sociologist, journalist and essayist; David Smoljak – member of the Czech Senate, screenwriter and director.

PANEL III: Women as "Wind of Change"

Guests: Magda Vášáryová; Margaret Hales – president of the European Union of Women (EUW); Albana Vokshi – MP in the Albanian Parliament; Jana Ustohalová – journalist, Deník N; Erica M. Umbricht – president of the Swedish section of the EUW, security policy expert.

The discussion was chaired by Jana Spekhorstová and Lucie Tungul.

The event took place with the financial support of the Hanns Seidel Foundation.



The Silent Women forum brings together women looking for answers to the questions of the modern era.



The Evenings with Reporters series is organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Polish Institute in Prague.

8. 10. | Debate with Respekt: Electoral Drama in Austria, Hungary and Poland

The young star of Austrian politics Sebastian Kurz was expected to win the election, but his triumph was complicated by difficult post-election negotiations and the search for a coalition partner. The future direction will soon be decided in Poland as well, where the favourite of the elections, the head of the Law and Justice Party, Jaroslav Kaczynski, is making no secret of his plan to transform the country following the Hungarian model. And it is in Hungary where the forthcoming municipal elections may be crucial – the opposition has united against the ruling Fidesz. How the three elections would redraw Central Europe was discussed by Zuzana Lizcová, head of the Department of German and Austrian Studies, Institute of International Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences of Charles University, and Vít Dostál director of the Research Center of the Association for International Affairs.

Moderated by Silvie Lauder.

9. 10. | Evenings with Reporters: Poles and Czechs 30 Years Later / Us and Them

Though we live in free and wealthy countries, the trenches running through society are getting deeper. Social cohesion, compromise in the name of mutual interest and the art of listening to others are disappearing. We are fracturing into small (social) bubbles that reinforce their own truths and search for the enemy within. This problem besetting the whole Western world is also being felt keenly in the Czech Republic and Poland, impacting public debate, politics and our lives.

A discussion between the sociologists Michał Łuczewski and Daniel Prokop was moderated by Petr Vizina.

For Central European countries 1989 represented both a new starting line and an entreaty to come to terms with many internal problems. Thirty years after the fall of communism, Polish and Czech journalists and figures from public life discuss the transformations in the two countries.

This anniversary series was co-created by the Václav Havel Library and the Polish Institute in Prague. It was supported by the Czech-Polish Forum of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic.

The debate took place in Polish and Czech.

16. 10. | Taiwan Demystified

The event presented Taiwan as a democratic country in a difficult geo-political position, and as an important investment partner for the Czech Republic. It clarified the current status

of Taiwan in international relations, including its position on the "One China Principle". Other topics included Cross-Straits Relations, cooperation with other countries, and some of the recent controversies in the Czech Republic, such as the much discussed Prague's Sister City agreements.

Guests: Joey Wang (Representative, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office), Szu-chien Hsu, RoC Deputy Foreign Minister, Ketty W. Chen (Vice-President, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy), Carl Gershman (President, National Endowment for Democracy), Martin Hála (Director, Sinopsis).
Moderated by Kateřina Procházková (Sinopsis).

23. 10. | Morozov, Němec – The Power of the Powerful, or The Power of the Powerless

Russia and Europe from the perspective of 2024. A philosophical dialogue of the generations.

Presidential elections will be held in the Czech Republic and Russia in, 2023 and 2024, respectively. What will the mood be in both societies at that time? Can Czech citizens break the Zeman-Babiš alliance and what route will Russia take to reinforcing Putinism? And what is the role of Putinism in the Czech Republic and the whole of Europe today?

Guests: political scientist Alexandr Morozov and philosopher Václav Němec.

Moderated by Karel Svoboda.

12. 11. | Debate with Respekt: The Revolution? I Don't Remember, But...

Young people and November 1989 – what do Czechs who were too young to understand, or had not yet been born 30 years ago, think of the revolution? What do they think about the period in which they grew up? And isn't it perhaps time for a new revolution?

Guests: Miloš Říha (director of the Scout Institute)

Kateřina Kňapová (sociologist and currently a civil servant at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs focused on social policy and the issue of equality between women and men)

Daniel Pražák (teacher and deputy chair of the Otevřeno initiative)

The discussion was moderated by Tomáš Brolík.

13. 11. | Who Knows What Tomorrow Brings?

What does it mean to be a journalist in the 21st century? A discussion and a book launch.

What will happen when the respected commentator Jindřich Šídlo sits down to discuss journalism with Tomáš Etzler, who cooperates with CNN in the US and is a former Czech Television





China correspondent? In the era of Facebook and YouTube, what does the profession entail? How does American journalism differ from that in Europe and the Czech Republic? And why do people go abroad? The two journalists discussed a range of issues, serious and otherwise.

Erik Tabery “baptized” the book.

3. 12. | Evenings with Reporters: Poles and Czechs 30 Years Later / Beyond Borders

The fall of the Iron Curtain opened up borders. But do we actually observe the world, or do we travel merely for experiences? The media, internet and social networks deliver thousands of images a minute from far-flung parts. We are overwhelmed by reports about refugees, military conflicts and revolutions and photos of natural disasters. How close is solidarity to indifference? Thirty years after our countries won their freedom back, two photo reporters discussed their experiences of regions that are still awaiting that happy moment.

Guests: Alžběta Jungrová, whose awards include the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Prize for photographs from a Burmese refugee camp in Bangladesh and who has documented the situation in Cambodia, the Gaza Strip and the Afghan-Pakistani border; Kuba Kamiński, winner of the National Geographic Photo Contest and Grand Press Photo, who has worked in Belarus, China and Crimea following the Russian annexation. The debate took place in Polish and Czech with interpretation from and into both languages.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and the Polish Institute in Prague with the support of the Czech-Polish Forum at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

9. 12. | Debate with Respekt: China's Influence in Czechia

A debate of the Respekt weekly editors and their guests on a current topic. The BIS counterintelligence and the National Office for Cyber and Information Security (and also NATO) warn against it; it is discussed by the president and the mayor of Prague; and in recent months, it has even found its way into the debate on academic freedom at domestic universities. China's influence in Czechia is growing. How exactly does it manifest itself? And how can these risks be repelled?

Guests: sinologist and head of the Department of Sinology at Charles University's Faculty of Arts Olga Lomová; Aktuálně.cz website journalist Lukáš Valášek; Filip Šebok, an analyst for the Association for International Affairs.

Moderated by Silvie Lauder.

Memory and Totalitarianism

14. 1. | Terje B. Englund – The Spy Who Arrived Late: The Czechoslovak Intelligence Service in Norway

The Norwegian Bohemist and journalist Terje B. Englund is interested in Central and Eastern Europe and in particular the Czech Republic, where he has been living for 25 years. This is borne out by his newspaper articles and books, including his latest title, which explores in detail Czechoslovak espionage relating to Norway from the Communist takeover of 1948 until the fall of communism in 1989, placing it in the broader context of Norwegian-Czech relations and events in Europe. He draws on archival materials and eye-witness accounts to flesh out specific human stories.

The book features such figures as Milada Horáková, Karel Kryl, writer Egon Hostovský and General František Moravec, who sent Kubiš and Gabčík from London to assassinate Heydrich. Alongside this are descriptions of very cunning spying techniques in which one side loses sight of the fact that the other can be just as clever, or even one step ahead... Few would expect so much espionage activity between Communist Czechoslovakia and Norway. And few would also expect that virtually 30 years after the Velvet Revolution, we still don't know all we should about the work of the StB (State Security). This makes Terje B. Englund a "spy" who most certainly hasn't arrived late. Alongside the author, the guests of the debate included historian Petr Blažek of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, Radek Schovánek, a researcher focused on the history of the Communist regime, and translator Zuzana Hlavičková. The event was moderated by Denisa Novotná.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Prostor publishing house and the Scandinavian House.

24. 1. | Karel Skalický: The Church in Europe, Europe in the Church

Mons. Karel Skalický is a Czech Roman Catholic theologian, academic, writer, priest, teacher and an emeritus professor at the Pontifical Lateran University and the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, where he is based at the Faculty of Theology. An exile in Italy from 1956 to 1994, he has been an editor at the theological review *Studie*, a spiritual councillor to young people at St. Peter's Oratory in the Vatican, a spiritual steward to Czech exiles in Italy, the second secretary of Cardinal Josef Beran...

The author presented his recently published monograph *Církev v Evropě, Evropa v církvi* (*The Church in Europe, Europe*



*Theologian, Religious Studies expert and Catholic priest Karel Skalický introduced the monograph *The Church in Europe, Europe in the Church* at the VHL.*



Marci Shore, a professor of history at Yale University, in a debate with Pavel Barša and Jáchym Topol.

in the Church). It is a theological view of the history of Europe via the prism of freedom and revolution that reflects European history, particularly the history of the 20th century in Czechoslovakia and in other countries behind the Iron Curtain.

Karel Skalický's guests were Mons. Adolf Pintíř and Dr. Roman Míčka.

This evening of readings, recollections and dialogues was hosted by theologians František Štěch and Zdeněk A. Eminger.

13. 2. | Staying Unbowed by the Flame

Karel Hiršl and his path to the resistance, 1942–1944.

Letters written by Karel Hiršl to friends forced to work in the Reich are not just a personal and historical testimony but also a generational one. In the missives, following the shock of "Munich Betrayal", the then 20-year-old worked his way through the legacy of Czech and world literature in order to find a new spiritual orientation under which the world could be made better and more just. Like many, he found the answer in the ideas of socialism and in the establishment of the resistance organisation Vanguard. On 2 May 1945, Karel Hiršl was among 50 young Communist resistance fighters executed at the Small Fortress at Terezín. Those who survived, including philosopher Karel Kosík, were in the vanguard of the Prague Spring in the 1960s.

The evening was hosted by Alena Wagnerová, who issued the letters, and publisher Tomáš Trusina.

26. 2. | Republic Café: The Czech Lot

The Czech lot – the Czech lot? Milan Kundera's December 1968 article and Václav Havel's almost immediate response "was to blame" for a long-running debate among Czech intellectuals that returns in regular waves to the pages of our culture magazines.

It was continued at the Václav Havel Library by Michael Žantovský, who, along with his guests, pondered the lots of nations small and large, how the Czech nation has stood up to long past and recent historical tests, the possibilities of democracy, etc.

Guests: Bohumil Doležal, Jiří Pehe, Petr Pithart and Matěj Spurný.

18. 3. | The Maidan with Marci Shore

Yale University professor Marci Shore recently brought out *The Ukrainian Night: An Intimate History of Revolution*. The book is an attempt to explore an historical event not just through a historiography of the dramatic political developments of winter 2013–2014 in Ukraine but above all through the stories of participants and their motivations. In this way it attempts to tackle an essential issue of history study in phenomenological

terms: how countless individual “small” histories become “big” history.

Jáchym Topol and Pavel Barša discussed this subject with Marci Shore at the VHL.

11. 4. | 50 Years Since Eliyahu Rips' Protest

“I didn’t believe that the Prague Spring could ignite a spark in Latvia or in the Soviet Union. But when everybody is in prison and a fellow inmate manages to escape, you’re also delighted. However, after the occupation that delight turned to bitterness... My act stemmed from absolute bitterness. I ceased believing that communism could collapse in the way it later did. It seemed that that evil would remain here forever.” Eliyahu Rips, 2008

Meeting with the Israeli mathematics professor Eliyahu Rips, who inspired by Jan Palach, set himself on fire on 13 April 1969, in central Riga in protest at the occupation of Czechoslovakia. The evening also included a talk by historian Petr Blažek on cases of self-immolation linked to the Soviet invasion. Moderated by Adam Hradilek of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

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

18. 4. | Vendulka Voglová: Escape to Freedom

An evening with Ondřej Kundra dedicated to the life of Vendulka Voglová, who became a symbol of the Holocaust thanks to a photograph by Jan Lukas.

At the moment the well-known Czechoslovak photographer pressed the shutter of his camera, Vendulka Voglová was due to die within months. However, the picture that later made the 12-year-old girl a symbol of the Holocaust might never have been taken. Vendulka was Jewish and Lukas was afraid to develop the photo; if the Nazis had found it, he would have ended up in a concentration camp just like Vendulka and her family. Nearly 80 years later, the journalist Ondřej Kundra succeeded in tracking Vendulka Voglová down in the US, where she had emigrated to after the war, and persuaded her to speak about her troubled life and friendship with Lukas. His gripping report delivered a personal, and exceptional, account of the most painful events of the 20th century.

Hosted by Barbora Šichanová of Radio Wave.

25. 4. | Long Journey Home: A Prague Love Story

The launch of and reading from a memoir, recently published in Canada, in which a four-year-old girl survives a harrowing escape across the heavily armed border of Czechoslovakia with



We recalled the story of Vendula Voglová, who was captured in a picture by the famous photographer Jan Lukas just before her deportation to a concentration camp.



An evening entitled *Charter 77 – Three Generations of Opposition: Reflections on Totalitarianism*.

her mother and brother after the Communist takeover in 1948, leaving everything behind to flee to freedom in Canada. Years later, as a young woman living in Toronto, she is drawn to her country of birth and returns to Prague, finding love, danger, heartbreak and her family's legacy.

The book was introduced by its author, Helen Notzl, in discussion with David Vaughan. The event was held in English.

Organized in cooperation with the Canadian Embassy in Prague.

29. 4. | Discussion with Wendy Holden

Discussion with UK writer and journalist Wendy Holden, author of the bestseller *Born Survivors*, on the occasion of the release of two other titles newly translated into Czech:

One Hundred Miracles, a memoir of the invigorating power of music that records the life story of the world-famous pianist, first lady of harpsichord and teacher Zuzana Růžičková (1927–2017), and *The Cruelty of Beauty*, a psychological thriller inspired by the Czech glass-making tradition and the love story of a Czech glassmaker and an English writer in the 1980s and '90s; trust is as fragile as glass!

The books were "baptized" by Andrea Tögel Kalivodová.

Moderated by journalist Renata Klusáková.

2. 5. | Miloš Doležal: Protectorate Stories

How do people respond in intense situations? What are the consequences of collaborating with occupiers or doing a deal with the devil? Our modern history isn't solely paved with heroism, sacrifice and principle but also with personal failure, betrayal and collaboration. Three faces, three Czech stories: Gestapo officer Felkl from Bělá, parachutist Čurda from Hlína and Gestapo informer Bušta from Cerekev.

Presentation of the new book by Miloš Doležal together with psychologist Daniel Štrobl, who has worked with the Centre for Stress Research and been on a number of army missions.

Hynek Chmelař read excerpts from the book.

6. 5. | Charter 77 – Three Generations of Opposition: Reflections on Totalitarianism

The impact of Charter 77 and other opposition groups on the pre-Velvet Revolution regime in our country is well-known. However, the fates of many signatories are less familiar. What did signing the Charter mean under totalitarianism? And does being active in the opposition remain an obligation?

Jan Souček (1899–1983), a sociologist, psychologist and philosopher, taught at apartment seminars and was involved in

organizing "Patočka's flying university." His life and activities were discussed by historian Prokop Tomek from the Military History Institute.

Other guests included writer Petr Koudelka, who introduced his book *Peříčka, peříčka (Feathers, Feathers)*, which was written without hope of publication in 1988. In the grotesque novel, the author reflects on 20 years in the "grey zone" of socialist normalisation.

The youngest generation was represented by Charter signatory Karel Koutský, the grandson of Jan Souček, who attended unauthorized concerts and demonstrations and distributed the underground publications *Vokno* and *Informace o Chartě*. He was also a student at apartment seminars given by, among others, Radim Palouš, Oto Mádr and Josef Zvěřina. Today, he is a photographer, the founder of *Ateliér Fotorenesance* and a publisher.

We also screened a banned 1970s *Televizní kulturní revue* documentary, entitled Petr Koudelka's "Steps", and a projection of photographs by Karel Koutský evoking the period from the 1980s to the present day.

The discussion also featured underground Roman Catholic priest Ladislav Heryán, who played the guitar. Ota Lébr performed on violin.

Hosted by Prokop Tomek.

29. 5. | American Spring at the Václav Havel Library: The Voice of America and its Czech Voice from Vienna

The Voice of America in the context of a bipolar world was the theme of the gathering held in connection with an exhibition dedicated to Ivan Medek, who was for many years a correspondent and contributor with Radio Free Europe, the BBC and other outlets.

The program was linked to a repeat of an exhibition entitled *Ivan Medek: A Sincerely Honest Gentleman*, which the National Museum created in 2015 to mark the 90th anniversary of his birth. The exhibition could be viewed from 1. May to 31 May in front of the Church of St. Wenceslas in Smíchov.

Apart from historian Prokop Tomek, other guests of the discussion included one-time colleagues of Medek's: Libor Rouček, who was later a deputy-chairman of the European Parliament, and Jolyon Naegele, a former Voice of America and Radio Free Europe journalist.

Moderated by journalist Petr Brod.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the American Spring festival.



Thirty years after the Tiananmen Square Massacre we discussed those events with sinologists and journalists.

4. 6. | The Tiananmen Square Massacre – 30 Years Later

On the night of 3–4 June 1989, the Chinese People's Army sealed off the area around Tiananmen Square and attacked crowds of students who had been gathering there since April to protest against human rights violations, the denial of political rights, high levels of corruption, inflation, an outmoded approach to education and growing social divisions. To this day it is not known exactly how many protesters died during the military operation. In China, there is a total information blackout regarding the Tiananmen Square massacre.

What preceded the deployment of military forces? Why did the Chinese leadership decide to quell the protests? How does today's China handle the legacy of the protests and their subsequent violent suppression? Are such mass protests at all possible in China now? And is there any chance whatever of the democracy movement being continued today?

The guests of the debate included sinologist Martin Hála of Sinopsis, sinologist Olga Lomová of Charles University's Faculty of Arts, and journalist and long-time China correspondent Tomáš Etzler.

The event was chaired by Kateřina Procházková. The opening address was delivered by Erik Black, cultural attaché of the U.S. Embassy in Prague, who worked at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing in the past.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Sinopsis and the U.S. Embassy in Prague.

14. 6. | Hana Lamková: The Search for a Home

The difficult life journey of a married couple Ada and Jiří Krupička lasted nearly a century and was uncommonly colourful. It led across the tumultuous 20th century from the southern shore of the then Austria-Hungary to Prague, Brno, Posázaví and from Jáchymov and other Communist concentration camps to Edmonton in Canada. Jiří, a philologist and natural scientist, was a secondary school teacher, a political prisoner, a writer and an academic, and received numerous awards later in life. His book *Renesance rozumu (The Renaissance of Reason)* was once named by the book of the year by Václav Havel. While Ada spent virtually her whole life as a homemaker, her life was no less colourful and the search for a home, which many went through in the 20th century, followed her all her life. The book *Hledání domova (Search for a Home)* was written by Hana Lamková, a family friend of the couple's, who, in her own words, had a "shared century" with them.

The launch of the book was attended by Irena Blodgett, who apart from grandchildren and great-grandchildren born in Canada is the only living member of the family whose fate is outlined by the author.

Author Hana Lamková read excerpts and Jiří Grygar “baptized” the book.

Moderated by Irena Tatíčková.

18. 6. | Several Sentences – Flyers, Demonstrations and Petitions in 1989

The theme of this debate, held in connection with the 30th anniversary of the Several Sentences petition, was public shows of defiance to the Communist regime in the late 1980s.

The speakers included the then representatives of the opposition movement Hana Marvanová (Independent Peace Association – Initiative for the Demilitarisation of Society), Petr Placák (Czech Children) and Alexandr Vondra (Charter 77).

Chaired by historian Petr Blažek.

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

22. 8. | The Forgotten War? Europe Between Berlin and Moscow

Exactly 80 years ago, an alliance was signed between Germany’s Nazi Third Reich and the Soviet Union. The Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact was an introduction to World War II. On its basis, the first chapters of the bloodiest conflict in history took place on a territory erased from the map of the Polish state. Nevertheless, in the global memory, this stage of the war is often overlooked, and the main milestones remain Germany’s invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941 and, de facto simultaneously, the launch of the “final solution”. What are the reasons for this neglect? What effect does the war have on the contemporary international debate? What are the lessons of the anniversary of the alliance of the two totalitarian regimes for the present day?

Three eminent historians took part in the debate: Andrej Zubov, co-author of the monumental *History of Russia in the 20th Century*; Andrzej Nowak of Krakow’s Jagiellonian University, an expert on Eastern Europe gradually bringing out the multi-volume *The History of Poland*; and Tatjana Tönsmeier of the University of Wuppertal, a specialist in the history of territories occupied by the Third Reich during the war.

The debate was moderated by Michael Žantovský.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and the Polish Institute in Prague in cooperation with the Embassy of the Federal



*The book *The Search for a Home* maps a life journey across the tumultuous 20th century.*



Republic of Germany and the Summer School of Journalism in Havlíčkův Brod.

25. 9. | Was It Worth It?

A tribute to Vladimír Kučera

Was it worth it? Did the breakup of Austria-Hungary and the creation of Czechoslovakia make sense? Was independent Czechoslovakia, as Edvard Beneš claimed, a “lover of the deal”, or, as Adolf Hitler mockingly declared a few years later, the “appendix” of the Versailles Agreement? Can the roots of the problems that later came to a head in Munich be traced to 1918? Isn't the First Republic, like a lot of music stars, chiefly famous for dying young and tragically? How did the way Europe and the world lived Czechoslovakia change during its history? Are we the descendants of Jan Hus, or of the Hussites? Given Czech history, can the state and its citizens be constructively well-rounded and confident? Are we capable of posing such questions on the basis of our historical knowledge?

These and other questions were posed by the moderator of the TV series *Historie.cs*, Vladimír Kučera, and Karel Kučera to personalities with various backgrounds and outlooks. Guests: Petr Blažek, Jana Čechurová, Evžen Gál, Anna Hogenová, Lada Hubatová-Vacková, Petra Ježková, Daniel Kroupa, Karel Kučera, Vladimír Kučera, Jindřich Marek, Miroslav Michela, Karel Oliva, Petr Pithart, Maciej Ruczaj, Jan Rychlík, Michal Semín, Karel Schwarzenberg, Matěj Spurný, Martin Škorpík, Jana Švejdová, Kateřina Tučková and Stefan Zwicker.

A discussion evening on a theme that resonates in the book of interviews *Stálo to za to? (Was It Worth It?)* dedicated to the outstanding journalist Vladimír Kučera, who died recently.

Guests: Jana Čechurová, Evžen Gál, Petra Ježková, Karel Oliva
Hosted by Karel Kučera.

26. 9. | Zdeněk Bárta: Paths to Freedom

A meeting and a discussion with an active participant in pre-November 1989 events, Zdeněk Bárta, a dissident, Evangelical pastor, founder of the revived Diakonie, MP and senator. The debate was complemented by the documentary film *Něžná revoluce (Gentle Revolution)*, compiled from authentic footage from the Velvet Revolution

The evening was hosted by Adam Šůra.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren.



3. 10. | So As Not To Lose Our Minds – Young People Between Palach and Charter 77

The testimonies of students from the period 1968–1977, i.e. “between Palach and the Charter”, put together as a collage of literary forms and narrative approaches in which each author offers their version of events according to their own memories and, in many cases, consciences. This represents a noteworthy mosaic of events from that time – small, humdrum and human, often carried out under the watch of cadre officers of all kinds –, as well as an exploration of the internal lives of young people in a period when the 1960s ethos was dying out and normalisation was setting in.

Former classmates from the Vysočany Grammar School, including sculptor Martin Patříčný and writer Alexandr Popov, discussed growing up in tough times, rebellion, conformism and the desire for love and freedom under the omnipresent supervision of the party and government.

The debate was moderated by journalist Martin Schulz.

Organized by the VHL in cooperation with Galén and Nakladatelství Ondřej Fibich publishers.



7. 10. | Home is Everywhere

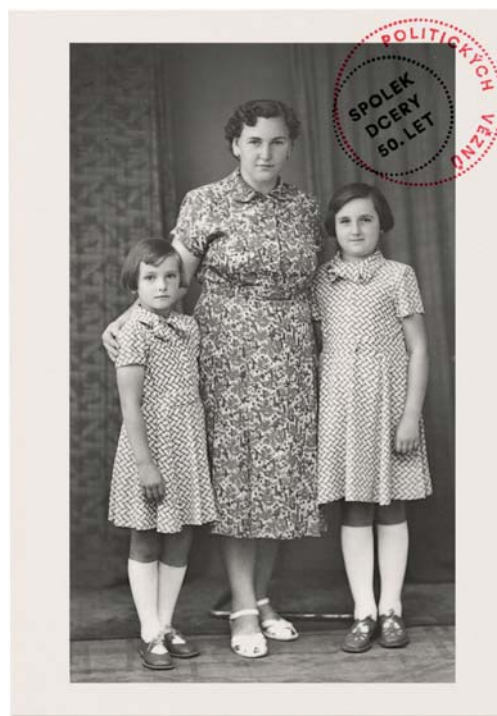
The history of Central Europe in the memoirs of a famous journalist. Barbara Coudenhove-Kalergi experienced countless key events in the region, including taking part in Pope John Paul II's first visit to Poland, the establishment of independent unions in Gdansk in 1980, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the military conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. As Central and Eastern Europe correspondent of Austrian TV and radio station ORF, she also experienced 1968 and the Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia. In 2001, Václav Havel bestowed the Order of T.G. Masaryk on her in recognition of her support for democracy and human rights.

The autobiography *Home is Everywhere*, which has been issued in Czech by the Vyšehrad publishing house, was introduced by the author in person at the VHL.

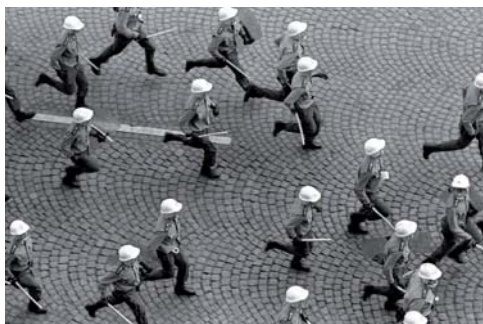
Guests: Jiřina Šiklová, Karel Schwarzenberg and the book's translator Adéla Langhamerová

15. 10. | Between the Castle and StB Jailers: The Czech Bahá'í Community from the Austro-Hungarian Empire Until 1989

The search for transcendence and spiritual values has always been closely associated with societal development in our lands. That was also the case in the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and particularly following the creation of Czechoslovakia.



An evening devoted to children of 1950s political prisoners and their view of the Velvet Revolution.



Getting the message across

16 October 2019, 13:45 – 17:30, Václav Havel Library, Ostrovní 13

The role of the foreign media in the build-up to the Velvet Revolution in 1989 was an important part of the dramatic events of the annus mirabilis. Through the reports and broadcasts of a small number of reporters based in Czechoslovakia the world had an opportunity to learn about the growing resistance to the communist regime from activists, eye-witnesses and observers. At the same time, citizens of Czechoslovakia became increasingly informed, largely thanks to foreign radio broadcasts, not only about the latest government decisions and the sorry state of the economy but also about various

civil initiatives. From the beginning of 1989 the reporting of foreign journalists in Prague became an essential feature in the efforts of the opposition to the regime to organize and attract broader support. Foreign journalists also played an important part in covering the drama of the Velvet Revolution and conveying its significance to the Western and global audiences, and in reporting on the first steps of the new, democratic government. The special event in the Václav Havel Library will bring together some of the journalists who covered the events and their memories.

The event takes place in cooperation with Radio Free Europe and with the kind financial support of the US Embassy in Prague.

The event will be held in English.

Admission is free on the basis of registration until capacity has been met.

For registration form go to: <https://bit.ly/2kU0Tzp>



Prior to the ascent of Communist dictatorship in 1948, the diversity of spiritual and religious life in our country also found external expression. One spiritual current with a firm position in that mosaic was the Bahá'í faith, which influenced many figures in Czech intellectual circles and also interested the Czechoslovak presidents Masaryk and Beneš. Like other faith groups, Bahá'í was the target of persecution by the totalitarian system following the Communist coup.

Guests: Kristýna Pilecká, lecturer on Bahá'í and faith at Charles University; Karel Tesař, diplomat and historian; Hana Sodeyfi, Austrian Slavic Studies scholar, interpreter and translator of Czech.

In cooperation with the Bahá'í Information Centre.

15. 10. | The Velvet Revolution in the Eyes of the Children of 1950s Political Prisoners

Did the lives of daughters and sons whose parents had been political prisoners in the 1950s change after November 1989? If so, how?

As children and young people they experienced persecution and discrimination on the part of the Communist totalitarian regime, feelings of injustice and humiliation, separation from their families and concern for the lives of their nearest and dearest and themselves. They frequently heard in their neighbourhoods and schools that they were "enemies of the state". After 1989 their parents were rehabilitated and became national heroes. But did the events of November 1989 also provide moral, social and material recompense to the offspring of 1950s political prisoners?

These issues were discussed by Ludmila Zouharová (daughter of Václav Švéda of the Mašíň brothers group, who was shot escaping over the border, arrested and sentenced to death), Jaroslava Matoušková (daughter of Zdeněk Wünsch, member of a Prague resistance group that planned a political coup after the Communist takeover of February 1948), František Brož (son a progressive farmer from the Jičín area who had all his property confiscated in 1951 before the family were forcibly moved to Ondrášov in North Moravia), Michal Anděl (son of Jaroslav Anděl, sentenced to 14 years in jail in a 1957 show trial) and other children of 1950s political prisoners.

The debate was preceded by the screening of video testimonies from the group Daughters of the 1950s, who received a Gold Star in the European Commission's Active European Remembrance program.

Moderated by historian Jan Kalous from the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

16. 10. | Getting the Message Across

The role of the foreign media in the build-up to the Velvet Revolution in 1989 was an important part of the dramatic events of the *annus mirabilis*. Through the reports and broadcasts of a small number of reporters based in Czechoslovakia, the world had an opportunity to learn about the growing resistance to the communist regime from activists, eye-witnesses and observers. From the beginning of 1989, the reporting by foreign journalists in Prague became an essential feature in the efforts of the opposition to the regime to organize and attract broader support. Foreign journalists also played an important part in covering the drama of the Velvet Revolution and conveying its significance to Western and global audiences, and in reporting on the first steps of the new, democratic government. The special event in the Václav Havel Library brought together some of the journalists who covered the events and their memories.

Program

13.45 **Registration**

14.00 – 14.15 **Welcome reception at the Václav Havel Library: Michael Žantovský**

Introduction: Jennifer Bachus, Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy in Prague

14.15 – 15.45 **PANEL 1: Radio correspondents**

Jolyon Naegele, former East Europe correspondent of the Voice of America

Martin Schulz, former editor of Radio Free Europe

Ross Johnson, former director of Radio Free Europe in Munich

Moderator: Jakub Szántó, former Czech TV Middle East correspondent and author

15.45 – 16.00 **Coffee break**

16.00 – 17.30 **PANEL 2: Print correspondents**

Alison Smale, former chief East Europe correspondent of Associated Press, outgoing UN Under-Secretary General for Global Communications
Colin McIntyre, former chief East Europe correspondent of Reuters, currently a consultant to the Thomson Reuters Foundation

Michael Žantovský, former Prague correspondent of Reuters

Moderator: Jakub Szántó, former Czech TV Middle East correspondent and author

17.30 – 17.45 **Glass of wine**

The event took place in cooperation with Radio Free Europe and with the kind financial support of the US Embassy in Prague.





17. 10. | The Underground and Czechoslovakia in the Years 1976–1981

The period covered by the fifth international conference on the Czech underground was not selected randomly. The normalisation regime's first mass campaign against the underground community began in 1976. It ended with the uniting of a fragmented opposition around a common platform, Charter 77. Ironically, it took the Communist regime itself to politicize and popularize the underground.

Many young people, on the verge of adulthood, learned about the existence of long-haired rebels from the widespread smear campaign and soon swelled their ranks. A confrontational phase of the Cold War was reflected in an increased crackdown on the domestic opposition. At the turn of the 1980s, the Communist regime launched a second drive against the underground that culminated in the nationwide operation "Satan", targeted against the underground magazine Vokno, first published in 1979. "Satan" was preceded by the regional operation "Sabat", aimed at destroying the underground in North Bohemia, specifically its connection to the Prague centre of Charter 77. It remains little known that, apart from in Prague, the greatest number of Charter 77 signatories were actually from the underground. These people created the backbone of the movement. The period 1976–1981 represents the peak, integrating phase of the Czech underground, whose spiritual leader was Ivan Martin Jirous. Other typical aspects of this period clearly include the phenomenon of "country houses", islands of freedom where there was a vibrant cultural life, under the watchful eye of the State Security.

These and many more often unjustly overlooked aspects were the focus of this conference, which brought together leading domestic and international experts.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

30. 10. | The Velvet Revolution After Thirty Years

Daniel Kroupa, Monika MacDonagh-Pajerová, Jolyon Naegele and Jan Sokol returned to the events of the Velvet Revolution in conversations with Olga Sommerová and Petr Placák. The focus was not on the recollections of direct participants but on the recent history and values that formed us and continue to do so.

Via interviews and rich accompanying photographs we followed the path to the Velvet Revolution and the dramatic events at the end of 1989, and also considered what the change brought us and what kind of world we are creating together.

Well-known figures representing various generations, professions and opinions presented a multi-dimensional overview of our lived history and the responsibility we bear toward them and future generations.

Chaired by Jáchym Topol.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Karolinum publishing house.

30. 10. | Memorial to Three Resistances in Lošany

The debate focused on the form of the Memorial to Three Resistances in Lošany on the family farm of Major General Josef Mašín. How should Czechoslovakia's three resistance movements in the 20th century be commemorated? How has remembrance culture in this area changed in the past? What were the international inspirations for the architectural plan of the Lošany memorial?

Guests: architect Tomáš Hradečný and writer and publisher Jiří Padevět.

Moderated by historian Petr Blažek moderated.

31. 10. | What is freedom?

A Panel discussion featuring Velvet Revolution participants and today's youth. How are we to view the events surrounding the Velvet Revolution 30 years ago?

What did the direct participants experience? How did those constructing the new order of things handle the first wave of freedom? And what do today's young people know about things then? All of this was discussed by our three guests.

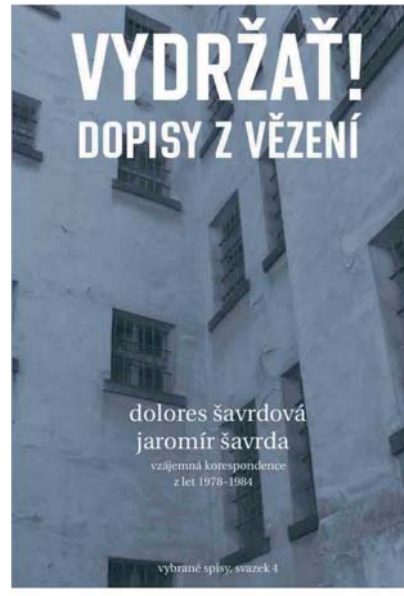
After the revolution, Miloslav Běťák put his energies into reviving the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren's Diaconia and headed the first and only permanent Diaconia hospice in Valašské Meziříčí for 10 years. Michal Vogl was studying electrical engineering at the time of the revolution. Those events and his activism led to him studying theology as well and he is now an Evangelical pastor; alongside religion he has taught IT at an elementary school and publishes a regional magazine. Kristýna Drápalová wasn't even born in 1989. Today she is a student and activist.

Moderated by Adam Šůra, editor-in-chief of the Paměť a dějiny quarterly.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren

4. 11. | Stay Strong! Letters from Prison

"The letters present two individuals joined by a stale romance but also considerable life experience. They capture attempts





Photos by Polish reporter Krzysztof Miller from the Velvet Revolution and the world.

to maintain freedom of speech but also fear of the censorship that would hold back messages for the other person. They reveal the hardship that the married couple, civically engaged individuals, had to face during normalisation.”

Vydržat! Dopisy z vězení (Stay Strong! Letters from Prison), a book of correspondence between Jaromír Šavřda and his wife Dolores between 1978 and 1984, was introduced by Jiří Gruntorád, Iva Málková and Jiří Fiedor. Markéta and Roman Polách read excerpts while video interviews with Dolores Šavřdová were screened.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Pulchra publishing house.

5. 11. | Czechoslovaks' Journeys to Freedom in the Antipodes – Havel in the Pacific

A debate focused on the Czechoslovak exile community in Australia and New Zealand. What form did waves of Czechoslovak migration to the Antipodes in the 20th century take, particularly post-1948? What conditions welcomed newly-arrived exiles in Australia and New Zealand in the 1950s, and why did that change after the 1968 occupation of Czechoslovakia?

Via the stories of émigrés, we looked back at the Czech and Slovak community Down Under and, via the recollections of those who were there, recalled life in Australia and New Zealand. Also discussed were the Czech men and women who found success in Pacific countries. As part of the discussion, we also spoke about Václav Havel's presidential visit to the region in 1995.

Markéta Vozková from the Aussie and Kiwi Film Fest team hosted the evening.

The event took place within the accompanying program of the sixth edition of the festival of Australian and New Zealand cinema, whose theme was FREEDOM.

8. 11. | Krzysztof Miller: Revolution Through a Lens

Work by the Polish photo reporter from the Velvet Revolution and around the world.

It is 1989. The Eastern Bloc is falling apart. Krzysztof Miller, then a fledgling Polish reporter, captures in his pictures demonstrations and changes in Poland, the Velvet Revolution in Prague and the bloody fall of the regime in Romania.

Between 1990 and 2008 he documented a series of military conflicts and victims of massacres and famines. Miller, who is famous today, has undertaken almost 60 international trips, returning to a number of places several times. Among other spots, he has taken pictures in Romania, Iran, Georgia, Nagorno-Karabakh, Bosnia, Croatia, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Burundi,



Zaire, Kosovo, Congo, Iraq, Uganda, Southern Sudan and Kenya. Miller immortalized key moments and central conflicts of the 20th century, as this exhibition bears out. The images on show deliver not just a picture of the contemporary world but also of a perceptive and exceptional photo reporter who, thanks to his keen eye, has managed to capture ordinary people in their everyday reality. The exhibition was an accompanying event to the Festival of Freedom.

Krzysztof Miller (1962–2016). The 16-time Polish champion in diving from a trampoline and tower began to cooperate with the anti-communist opposition during his secondary school studies. He started working with press and photography agencies in 1986. In 1988, he became a photojournalist for the Independent Students' Association, which accredited him to meetings of the opposition and the communist government at the so-called Round Table. In 1989 he became a photojournalist for *Gazeta Wyborcza* and from 1990 to 2008 he worked as a photojournalist around the world. He has won many awards in the Grand Press Photo and BZ WBK Press Photo competitions. Co-organizers: Polish Institute in Prague, Václav Havel Library, Leica Gallery Prague, Dom Spotkań z Historią and Agencja Gazeta. The project was supported by the Czech-Polish Forum of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

17. 11. | One Day We'll Have Made Progress

A little remembrance of events 30 years ago and contemplation of how to convey those events to the young generation. Every hour and half hour we screened footage from 1989 and continued with educational videos from the Year of Revolution series (www.rokrevoluce.cz), while visitors could also learn how Václav Havel imagined life in the Czech Republic in the year 2029. The event concluded at 17:30 with a 20-minute performance by Dance Studio Light entitled *The Republic is Waiting for Us, or Where is My Home*.

18. 11. | The Transitions to Democracy in Spain and Czechia/Czechoslovakia

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution and the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Czech Republic and Spain, we organized a conference on the transitions to democracy in Spain and Czechia/Czechoslovakia. We addressed how Spain and the then Czechoslovakia were able to move from dictatorship to democracy in processes globally considered to be successful, how the two countries have evolved since then, and what challenges still lie ahead.



*Launch of the book *That Day – 17 November 1989*, which contains testimonies from over 200 demonstrators.*

The speakers were Michael Žantovský and Charles Powell, director of the Spanish think tank Real Instituto Elcano, Spain's leading international relations think-tank, and a Professor of Contemporary History who has lectured at Oxford. He has published six books and dozens of articles on Spanish history, politics and foreign policy, with a special emphasis on the European dimension. The event was held in English.

Organized in cooperation with the Embassy of Spain in Prague and the Cervantes Institute. Spanish finger food and wine were served after the discussion.

Dr. Charles Powell CMG

Charles Powell is Director of the Elcano Royal Institute, Spain's leading international relations think-tank, and a Professor of Contemporary History at CEU San Pablo University. Prior to settling in Spain in 1997, he was Lecturer in History at Corpus Christi College (Oxford), J. A. Pye Fellow at University College (Oxford), and Junior Research Fellow at St. Antony's College (Oxford). He has published six books and dozens of articles on Spanish history, politics and foreign policy, with a special emphasis on the European dimension. He holds a BA in History and Modern Languages from Oxford University, where he also obtained his D. Phil for a thesis on Spain's transition to democracy. He received the title Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) for his endeavours in the field of UK-Spanish relations.

19. 11. | That Day, 17 November 1989

Everybody took to the streets of Prague that day. They just didn't know yet they had become part of an event that changed our history.

The gathering at Prague's Albertov, the euphoric march along the embankment and the subsequent violent repression on Národní St. have entered the history books. The book *Ten den – 17. listopad 1989 (That Day – 17 November 1989)* brings together over 200 eye-witness accounts from experienced demonstrators as well as those who took to the streets for the first time that day, student organizers and rank and file participants, random passers-by and police officers. What was their experience of 17 November and what expectations did it give them? What thoughts did they wake up with that morning and what future did they imagine when the demonstration was broken up and they were counting their cuts and bruises? It isn't a detachment of actors in those events but the actual day itself that speaks to the reader. The book gives a voice to well-known and unknown attendees, including those who have never previously spoken publicly about their experiences.

The authors, Michal Beck, Matouš Hartman, Alžběta Ambrožová and Anna Palánová, who were still students when the book was being written, created a compelling collage in cooperation with writer Aleš Palán that maps the story of that unique day. It allows contemporary readers to vicariously experience that crucial date and brings to life the legacy of days of revolution and hard-fought freedom.

Petr Schwarz moderated an evening featuring both the authors and a number of their interviewees.

27. 11. | Places of Memory: United States

Slavery, concentration camps for Japanese Americans during WWII, Native Americans... What are the sensitive spots of American history, and how are they served by museums and national parks in the United States today? Can we compare the American approach to its own past to Czech and Russian experiences of coming to terms with totalitarian regimes?

Štěpán Černoušek, chairman of the Gulag.cz association, shared his experiences of a Fulbright scholarship and study trip around the US, during which he visited more than 40 institutions focused on the past.

The event also included a projection of photographs from the institutions in question.

Organized in cooperation with the J.W. Fulbright Commission in the Czech Republic.

9. 12. | The Other Europe

In 1987, Jacques Rupnik and director Tom Roberts crossed the Iron Curtain to shoot a film about daily life in the Eastern Bloc for UK viewers. What impression did late socialism make? A unique selection of original, previously unpublished footage from the five-hour serial has been prepared by the National Film Archive in cooperation with the Václav Havel Library. The documentary includes hundreds of minutes of hitherto unexplored interviews with dissidents, politicians, artists, scientists and ordinary people recorded at the end of the 1980s.

From next year, materials from *The Other Europe* will become part of an extensive on-line database.

Jacques Rupnik introduced the screening and provided commentary.

The project has been carried out with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the Europe for Citizens program and the International Visegrad Fund.



*Jacques Rupnik introduced a screening of the film *The Other Europe* at the Ponrepo cinema.*



An evening with the authors of the publication AMNESIA, published in connection with the Jiří Sozanský exhibition, was launched by Jáchym Topol.

10. 12. | Czechoslovaks in the Gulag III: Book Presentation

This year on Human Rights Day, we marked the 80th anniversary of the start of waves of refugees from Czechoslovakia to the Soviet Union. The majority of the 8,000 refugees ended up in the Gulag, where 1,000 of them died. Selected stories of those refugees are the focus of the third edition of the successful series *Czechoslovaks in the Gulag*, which is being published in a co-edition by the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and Czech Television.

During the evening, as in the book, the fates of Czechoslovak citizens persecuted and executed in the USSR from the Bolshevik revolution to the end of Stalin's era were explored. The evening was dedicated to the memory of Heliodor Píka and Jakub Koutný, who saved thousands of their compatriots from Gulag camps and themselves met their deaths in Communist prisons in Czechoslovakia.

Among those in attendance were the publication's authors, Jan Dvořák, Jaroslav Formánek and Adam Hradílek, as well as relatives of the victims, who contributed to the preparation of the book.

12. 12. | Jiří Sozanský: Amnesia

A discussion with the authors of the publication *AMNÉZIE (AMNESIA)*, issued in connection with an exhibition of work by Jiří Sozanský at the Municipal House (15 October 2019–17 January 2020).

Both the publication and the exhibition recall important figures such as Josef Čapek, Emil Filla, Milada Horáková, Závaš Kalandra, Jan Zahradníček, Jiří Stránský, Jan Zajíc, Jan Palach, Ivan Martin Jirous and Václav Havel. These personalities – distinguished artists, scientists, journalists, politicians, civic activists and citizens unknown in their time – represent a set of people who shared a similar destiny: they displayed courage and stood up to the two totalitarian systems of the 20th century, Nazism and communism.

Alongside the project's creator Jiří Sozanský, the discussion involved philosopher Martin Palouš, journalist Vlastimil Ježek and historian Petr Koura, as well as Libuše Heczková, Josef Vojvodík and Jan Wiendl, who are Bohemists and literary scientists at Charles University's Faculty of Arts.

The evening also featured the presentation of the publication *SYMPOSION 27* and an autograph signing session.

18. 12. | Our Evening: Palach, Toufar and Havel in Authorial Film

An evening put together by students from the Václav Hollar Secondary School of Art presenting the work of their teacher Otakar Dušek. It included screenings of his films *Opus 13 – Palach*, *38 Nails under Josef Toufar and Jan Palach* and *Largo Installato*, a film focused on a street art tribute to President Václav Havel, in which the students themselves participated. The evening was hosted by students of the Václav Hollar Secondary School of Art.

Literature and Theatre

7. 1. | 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 seven years ago, on 3 January 2012.

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

Introduced by Jáchym Topol.

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

9. 1. | The Insanity Defence

A small Woody Allen symposium held in connection with the publication of *Obhajoba Šílenčova*, a Czech translation of his collection *The Insanity Defence* by Michael Žantovský and Dana Hábová.

7. 2. | Petr Hruška: It's Never Said

Host publishers issued *Nikde není řečeno (It's Never Said)*, a new poetry collection by Petr Hruška. The Ostrava native works as a literary historian at the Institute of Czech Literature at the Czech Academy of Sciences and apart from as poetry (such as *Obývací nepokoje Living Discomforts*, *Auta vjíždějí do lodí Cars Boarding a Boat*, *Darmata*), he also writes prose (the collection *Jedna věta One Sentence* for Revolver Revue, columns for Respekt and the Bubeník Revolveru online). Hruška's books do not come out frequently and his behaviour occasionally sparks a rumpus, such as most recently when he quit the jury of the State Literature Prize in protest at a deal with the Communists that enabled the formation of the current Czech government.

Both Hruška's latest book and his views were presented during the evening. Two guests helped introduce the collection: Adin Ljuca, a Bosnian poet, prose author, translator and



A small Woody Allen symposium (Jiří Peňás, Dana Hábová, Michael Žantovský and Jáchym Topol).



Poet Petr Hruška recited poems from his new collection *It's Never Said* at the Library.



On Love, Darkness and Amos Oz
(Alice Horáčková, Reda Ibrah and Michael Žantovský)

theatre director residing in Prague; and Radovan Lipus, creator of the TV documentary series *Šumná města*.

Music accompaniment by Irena and Vojtěch Havel.

The book (boasting visual art by Jakub Špaňhel) was available to purchase at the venue.

11. 2. | Mark Slouka: Labyrinth of the Heart

A discussion with the Czech-American novelist Mark Slouka. The biography of the author's father, Zdeněk Slouka (1923–2012), reflects the history of the 20th century. During the war a forced labourer, he was later an editor of the "Svobodné" (Free) Lidové noviny newspaper. Following the Communist coup he fled with his family into exile, where he spent over 40 years and taught at a university. On returning to his homeland he continued his publishing work and was awarded the Ferdinand Peroutka Prize. One might expect such a forceful, multi-layered figure to be the central character of a memoir by his son. However, that role is played by the writer's mother, Olga. Disastrously unhappily married and given to fits of sorrow and rage, she terrorizes her husband and traumatizes her son, who loves her unconditionally. The author plays with memory and attempts to separate fiction from fact, refusing to embroider, apologize or ameliorate. He carefully pieces together the story of his parents, marked by both his mother's fateful relationship with another man and unexpectedly lengthy and arduous exile.

The discussion featured the author, publisher Aleš Lederer and translator Josef Moník. Actor Kajetán Písařovic read excerpts and Denisa Novotná moderated the discussion.

The evening was organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Prostor publishing house.

18. 2. | On Love, Darkness and Amos Oz

An evening dedicated to Amos Oz, one of the most acclaimed of Israeli writers and intellectuals. The author of over 30 works of literature, essays and memoirs died on 28 December 2018. In his oeuvre, he created indelible portraits of Israeli reality and the country's political and spiritual roots and conflicts. His most important books include *My Michael* (1968), *Unto Death* (1971) and the memoir *A Tale of Darkness* (2002).

Oz was engaged for many years in trying to find a peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and regarded a two-state solution as the only way forward. "What's happening in Israel is a clash between the justified right of Israeli Jews to their own territory and the equally justified right of Palestinian Arabs," he once said.

The author visited Prague, where his mother had once studied, several times and became friendly with Václav Havel and other Czech literary figures.

Guests: Michael Žantovský and Alice Horáčková.

The evening was moderated by political scientist Reda Ifrah.

The evening was organised by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the TOPAZ institute.

20. 2. | Václav Havel: Protest, Divadlo na tahu

To sign or not to sign? A one-act play about a complicated question and even more complicated answer, about a long-standing dilemma that represents one of Havel's essential themes. Times are bad again. Petitions and protests are all the rage in Czechoslovakia and internationally. But do such activities have any meaning? Can the dissatisfied and unreconciled influence what is happening around them? Do they affect the actions and consciences of politicians? Is that enough?

An evening looking back at 1978's *Protest*, one of Havel's lesser-known Vaněk plays. It was performed by the Divadlo na tahu theatre, directed by Andrej Krob and featuring Karel Beseda and Radek Bár.

7. 3. | Éric Vuillard: Tagesordnung

An evening with Éric Vuillard, whose novel *The Order of the Day* came out in Czech on the Argo imprint in a translation by Tomáš Havel.

Éric Vuillard is a French novelist, filmmaker and scriptwriter whose books chiefly focus on events that have altered the course of history. His first novel *Conquistadors*, an account of the conquering of Peru by Francisco Pizarro, was published in 2009. It was followed by *La Bataille d'Occident* in 2012, *Congo* in the same year, *Tristesse de la terre: Une histoire de Buffalo Bill* in 2014 and *14 juillet* in 2016. All of his works are gripping and fascinating and based on thorough study of the historical facts. Vuillard is the recipient of numerous awards, including the most important of all in the French-speaking world, the Prix Goncourt, for *The Order of the Day* (2017).

The Order of the Day is a work of stunning force rooted in simplicity. Vuillard describes Europe's journey to the abyss via two historical moments. The first is 20 February 1933, when at a meeting of Hermann Göring and Adolf Hitler, who had become chancellor just a month earlier, the 42 most influential German industrialists pledge without the slightest resistance to finance the Nazi party's campaign in the forthcoming elections. The second moment the book explores is the Anschluss,



Meeting with Erik Vuillard, author of the novel *The Order of the Day*.



Artist Otakar Slavík and his art and writings were recalled at the library by Duňa Slavíková.

under which Austria is attached to Germany on 12 March 1938 on the basis of an agreement made between Hitler and Austria's chancellor, Kurt von Schuschnigg, exactly a month before in Vienna.

The evening was hosted by Petr Janyška, translator, journalist and former Czech ambassador to France.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Prague's Institut français and the Argo publishing house.

8. 3. | Otakar Slavík's Painterly Sweepings

An evening dedicated to the visual artist Otakar Slavík (1931–2010) in connection with the publication of his diaries under the title *Malířské Smetí (Painterly Sweepings)*.

The notebooks, as Slavík dubbed his diaries, were created as work and travel journals. Conveying his personal vision, they offer an intimate account of what art meant to him, what he believed in and the worlds in which he moved.

Though he was a trained artist, Slavík worked in a number of manual professions and only exhibited in the latter half of the 1960s. At that time, his art received attention as part of the New Figuration movement. In the early 1970s he became close to artists from the Crusaders' School of Pure Humour Without Jokes, whose absurd poetics appealed to him. He was one of the first signatories of Charter 77, resulting in his expulsion from the Creative Artists Foundation and subsequent forced emigration to Austria. He remained there until the early 1990s, when he began living alternately in Vienna and Prague.

The painter and his art and written works were recalled by Dana Němcová and Duňa Slavíková.

Excerpts from the book were read by Vojtěch Vondráček, while Hana Lundiaková Stinka provided musical accompaniment.

13. 3. | Magnesia Litera I

Reading by authors nominated in some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards.

Guests: Petr Borkovec: *Herbář k čemusi horšímu (A Herbarium for Something Worse)* (in the poetry category), Bára Dočkalová: *Tajemství Oblázkové hory (The Secrets of Pebble Mountain)* (works for children and youth), Jakub Szántó: *Za oponou války (Behind the Curtain of War)* (journalism) and Michal Šanda: *Hemingwayův býk (Hemingway's Bull)* (prose).

Hosted by Pavel Mandys of organizers Litera.

20. 3. | Magnesia Litera II

Reading by authors nominated in some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards.

Guests: Jiří Kamen: *Elvis ze Záluží* (*The Elvis of Záluží*) (in the prose category), Vojtěch Matocha: *Prašina* (works for children and youth) and Petr Stančík: *Nulorožec* (*The Hornless Rhino*) (prose).

Hosted by Pavel Mandys of organizers Litera.

25. 3. | Martin Puchner: The Written World

On the power of stories to shape nations, history and civilization.

Literary historian and philosopher Martin Puchner is an eminent professor of English literature at Harvard and Berkeley. In his book *The Written World* he shows that books, epics and manifestos are not merely texts stemming from an artistic and literary tradition but themselves represent historical actors. In his literary history, therefore, language, words and literature are just as important in shaping nations and defining culture as famous commanders, inventors and revolutionaries.

The debate was chaired by literary critic Jan M. Heller.

The evening took place in English with interpretation into Czech.

Martin Puchner was John P. Birkelund Fellow in the Humanities at the American Academy in Berlin in the 2019 spring semester.



Martin Puchner, a literary historian, philosopher and professor of English literature at Harvard and Berkeley, was a guest at the Library.

27. 3. | Magnesia Litera III

Reading by authors nominated in some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards.

Guests: Kamil Bouška: *Inventura* (*Inventory*) (in the poetry category), Petr Gajdošík: *František Vlácil. Život a dílo* (*František Vlácil: Life and Work*) (DILIA Litera for best newcomer), Tomáš Sedláček: *Druhá derivace touhy* (*The Second Derivation of Desire*) (journalism) and Tereza Semotamová: *Ve skříni* (*In the Wardrobe*) (prose).

Hosted by Pavel Mandys of organizers Litera.

2. 4. | Magnesia Litera IV

Reading by authors nominated in some of the seven categories in the annual Magnesia Litera book awards.

Guests: Vendula Borůvková: *1918 aneb Jak jsem dal gól přes celé Československo* (*1918, or How I Scored a Goal Across the Whole of Czechoslovakia*) (in the category works for children and youth), Štěpán Hobza: *Ferrari v džungli* (*A Ferrari in the Jungle*) (DILIA Litera for best newcomer) and Pavla Horáková: *Teorie podivnosti* (*A Theory of Strangeness*) (prose).

Hosted by Pavel Mandys of organizers Litera.



JIŘÍ KRÍŽAN
STÍN

čteno
Josef Somr
Pavel Batěk

mp3

Vážení přátelé,
srdečně Vás zveme na

**STÍN JIŘÍHO KRÍŽANA,
JOSEFA SOMRA A PAVLA BAŤKA**

aneb na slavnostní uvedení audioknihy Jiřího Křižana,
které se uskuteční v Knižně Václava Havla
v úterý **9. dubna 2019 od 17:00** hodin

Audiokniha *Stín* rozprává stejnojmennou novelu Jiřího Křižana (vydánu Knižnou Václava Havla v roce 2018) tím nejrozsáhlejším a nejintenzivnějším způsobem. Díky hlasům Josefa Somra a Pavla Baťky, Raveňové hudbě a režii Roberta Tamchyna působí příběh osobního vnitřního, chlapce vyrostavajícího starostavěky v pravečným obědem, prosťhávány, zábeckým historikami z náhradní vojenské služby u Hromozemí zpravidelným oragorů, více než sugestivně. Tak vyprávění tak umožňuje posluchači téměř fyzicky pociťt, jaké to je vyrůstat na okraji společnosti – jako politiku vůči nepohodlným, zřetelně nepříteli, a také nepřítelům, jistě však

Pozvání na slavnostní uvedení audioknihy přijali **Josef Somr** (čte),
Pavel Batěk (hrnk) a **Raven** (hudba). Moderuje **Robert Tamchyna** (režie).

Knižna Václava Havla
Oldřova 12, Praha 1, 110 00
www.vaclavhavel.cz

8. 4. | Republic Café: 50 Seasons of Divadlo Husa na provázku

For 50 years now, Brno's Divadlo Husa na provázku (Goose on a String Theatre) has been not only active in creative terms but also socially engaged. What that meant in the past and the company's direction today was discussed by its longstanding dramaturge Petr Oslzlý, the director of its Centre for Experimental Theatre, Miroslav Ošchatka, and artistic chief Anna Davidová. The journalist and poet Karel Škrabal, a member of the Brno literary group Vítrholc, served as moderator. Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Divadlo Husa na provázku.

9. 4. | Shadow of Jiří Křižan's Josef Somr and Pavel Batěk

A ceremonial presentation of the audio book *Stín* (*The Shadow*) The audio book (Tebenas, 2019) brings to life the eponymous novel by Jiří Křižan (published by the Václav Havel Library last year) in the most economical and intense manner possible. The voices of actors Josef Somr and Pavel Batěk, together with Raven's music and Robert Tamchyna's direction invigorate this story of an abandoned country boy brought up by an old-world and fair-minded grandfather, which is interspersed with "dumb" tales from the Auxiliary Technical Battalions (unarmed alternative military service). The narration gives the listener an almost physical sense of what it was like to grow up on the margins of society as a stigmatized "class enemy" and second-class "former person".

Guests: Josef Somr (grandfather), Pavel Batěk (grandson) and Raven (music). Moderated by Robert Tamchyna (director).

15. 4. | Radka Denemarková: The Lead Clock

"I had to write this book because I understood that I am living in a time when something essential is fracturing and changing and I don't know what. Beneath me tectonic shifts are taking place but what is this 'something' that's happening in China and which the whole world secretly admires? The worst of communism and the worst of capitalism have embraced. This functions economically and doesn't have a name. Václav Havel and his philosophy have an important role in the novel. I have become friends with people connected to the dissident anthology DanDu, who are building on the work of Václav Havel in very trying circumstances. I was deeply ashamed in front of them because my country's politicians are enchanted by China and claim it's a stable and harmonious society. However, what I encountered there is everything you can imagine under the term 'brutal police state'..."

The substantial novel *Hodiny z olova* (*The Lead Clock*) is inspired by the author's visits to China.

Dana Pfeiferová talked with writer Radka Denemarková about her new book and a host of topical issues.

17. 4. | Lost in Translation IV

Does anybody read or write reviews?

The latest in a series of discussions dedicated to the art of translation focused at literary in translation in various media and on social networks. Book reviews have all but vanished from the daily press and are less and less common in magazines. And does anybody at all read them? Does anybody purchase books on the basis of reviews? Or is book promotion migrating from classic media to social media such as Instagram, Facebook and YouTube? What is the specific situation of literary in translation and what future does it have in a world in which there is a growing shift from paper to digital?

These questions were pondered by: Kateřina Čopjaková, literary critic; Jakub Pavlovský, bookstagrammer; Lukáš Růžička, PR manager, Paseka publishing house; Jakub Šofar, journalist and prose author; and Monika Zavřelová, journalist and reviewer. Moderated by Tereza Semotamová.

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

7. 5. | Josef Rauwolf – Ginsberg's Wanderings Behind the Iron Curtain

Allen Ginsberg was not only an outstanding poet but also a keen traveller. On his wanderings, he got to know the entire world and countless noteworthy people, as well as finding a great deal of inspiration. The trips he took in 1965, when he successively visited Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union and Poland (and when he was expelled from both Castro's Havana and Prague) undoubtedly meant a lot to him.

As was his lifelong custom Ginsberg kept travel diaries, which were published in Czech under the title *Deníky zpoza železné opony* (*Iron Curtain Diaries*); they were discussed by translator Josef Rauwolf, a personal friend of Ginsberg's, and Jáchym Topol.

9. 5. | Serhiy Zhadan – How to Write About War Today

War is above all a political, social and security matter. However, it is also a subject that resonates deeply in culture, particularly in literature. Unlike Ernest Hemingway, for instance, the most famous Ukrainian writer Serhiy Zhadan has never fought.



Traditional debate series of the Václav Havel Library and the Czech Literary Translators' Guild.



Karel Hviždala: *The Exile Astronomical Clock*

However, he has been visiting the front regularly since 2014 as a humanitarian volunteer. War has left a deep imprint on his intimate poetry and socially-conscious prose. The hero of his most recent novel *Boarding School*, a teacher from a small town in the Donbas, where the army of a foreign state arrives unexpectedly, experiences war.

Serhiy Zhadan and the journalist and Radio Free Europe contributor Igor Pomerancev discussed how contemporary literature reflects the theme of war.

The evening concluded with a theatrical rendition of poems from Zhadan's collection *The History of Culture at the Beginning of This Century* by Brno's Agadir Theatre of Music and Poetry in translation by Alexej Sevruc.

The event took place in Ukrainian, with interpretation into Czech.

21. 5. | Migration in the Eyes of Africa

Stage reading and debate with Sédjro Giovanni Hounsou, a Beninese playwright and recipient of the RFI Prix Théâtre 2018.

Nothing's Land is a play about rage, youth, conscience and hope. After several years abroad, Malik opts to throw himself under a train rather than die of shame because he has returned home empty-handed. (Translation by Michal and Matylda Lázňovský; stage reading directed by Jiří Hajdyla).

Sédjro Giovanni Hounsou (1987), a Beninese playwright and initiator of a platform for other young Beninese artists, has focused on theatre since the age of 16. He took social studies at a university. His first play, *7 Billion Neighbours*, was written in 2012 and became the most performed play in Benin.

Afterwards, those in attendance were invited to a tasting of culinary specialities organized by the Alliance of Beninese Citizens in the Czech Republic.

The evening was held as part of the 15th edition of the festival Creative Africa, or We Are All Africans

28. 5. | Karel Hviždala: The Exile Astronomical Clock

Exilový Orloj (The Exile Astronomical Clock) is a book of memoirs that loosely follows on from Karel Hviždala's two collections of essays, *Osmý den týdne (The Eighth Day of the Week)* and *Dobře mrtvý dědeček (Well Dead Grandpa)*. The trio of highly personal testimonies showcase distinctive recollections that reveal connections between the author's childhood years and the present, contain admissions of his own naivety and weakness and reflect on his friends' motivations and actions with compassion.



The astronomical clock of the title refers to the companions with whom Hvízdá shared the exile's lot, in particular his peers Václav Bělohradský, Jiří Gruša, Antonín Brousek, Karel Kryl and Karol Sidon, and from the older generation Milan Kundera, Arnošt Lustig and Josef Škvorecký.

The book was "baptized" by Radkin Honzák, Karol E. Sidon and Jan Kerhart. Jiří Lábus read excerpts while Dáša Vokatá and Oldřich Kaiser provided musical accompaniment and Renata Klusáková was moderated the event.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with publishers Novela bohémica.

6. 6. | European Poets Live

I speak your language: Traditional readings by Czech, German, Slovak and Slovenian poets as part of the festival Stranou – European Poets Live.

Guests: Alja Adam, Axel Dietsch, Miloš Doležal, Markéta Hejná, Rudolf Jurolek, Nina Kremžar, Jiří Macháček, Michal Maršálek, Marie Steinerová and Maja Vidmar.

Music: Lana Petrovič, Marie Puttnerová and Martin Novák.

Lenka and Peter Kuhar hosted the evening.

19. 6. | Evening of Feminist Poetry – Whispers of the Moon

Actress Bára Hrzánová read from 22 poems collected in *Šepoty luny (Whispers of the Moon)* by the leading Czech feminist Mirek Vodrážka. She also discussed feminist issues with the poet: Why was neither the Communist regime nor the dissent receptive to feminism? Why are Czech women afraid to build on the political message of Milada Horáková? How does the myth of female beauty make itself felt in the acting profession? Why is violence toward women growing and what dangers does it pose? How many genders are there?

In the words of the philosopher Miroslav Petříček, Mirek Vodrážka represents a unique voice in Czech thinking: his perspective is always personal but not "subjective" given that it is based on a broad knowledge of specialist literature from many fields (including philosophy, sociology, history and counter-culture theory) as well as intensive work with the sources. This is apparent in his book *Rozumí české ženy vlastní historii? (Do Czech Women Understand Their Own History?)*, which reflects on Western and Czech feminism through the story of Milada Horáková (and other female victims of the totalitarian regime). Musical accompaniment: Mirek Vodrážka on keyboards and soprano Helena Zaoralová.

PROGRAM
VSTUP NA VŠECHNY AKCE ZDARMA

ÚTERÝ 4. ČERVNA / BEROUN JINÁ KÁVA, U KASÁREN 192
18:00 BRÁNA NADĚJE: Vernisáž fotografií JINDŘICHA ŠTĚTY
Vernisáž budícně doprovází violončelista Petr Helín.

STŘEDA 5. ČERVNA / BEROUN MUZEUM ČESKÉHO KRASU, HUSOVO NÁM. 16
17:00 PŘEČTI TI BASEŇ, POSLUŠUJ! Težká, samotář, slovnitý a dovtipitý letáček předstírá svůj život.
Alja Adam / Axel Dietsch / Miloš Doležal / Irena Doušková / Markéta Hejná / Rudolf Jurolek / Nina Kremžar / Michal Maršálek / Marie Steinerová / Maja Vidmar
Hudební doprovod: Lana Petrovič, Jiří Macháček.

ČTVRTEK 6. ČERVNA / PRAHA KNIHOVNA VÁCLAVA HAVLA, OSTROVNÍ 13
19:00 MLUVÍM TVOU ŘEČÍ Čtení českých, německých, slovenských a slovinských básní.
Alja Adam / Axel Dietsch / Miloš Doležal / Markéta Hejná / Rudolf Jurolek / Nina Kremžar / Jiří Macháček / Michal Maršálek / Marie Steinerová / Maja Vidmar
Hudba: Lana Petrovič, Marie Puttnerová & Martin Novák.

PÁTEK 7. ČERVNA / BEROUN
18:00 AUTORSKÁ ČTENÍ A BESEDA 18:00 Městská knihovna Beroun (U kasáren 813)
Dům senové TOM (Pal. Studlána 1884), střední škola, Autorská čtení a beseda se studenty středních škol; čtení a povídky s berounskými senátory.
18:00 18:00 Zlatovská věna ED Plošča, Ploščica 87/48, Autorská čtení českých, německých, slovenských a slovinských básní.
Alja Adam / Axel Dietsch / Miloš Doležal / Irena Doušková / Markéta Hejná / Rudolf Jurolek / Nina Kremžar / Jiří Macháček / Michal Maršálek / Marie Steinerová / Maja Vidmar
Hudební doprovod: Jiří Macháček, Lana Petrovič.

SOBOTA 8. ČERVNA / HRAD KRAKOVEC
15:00 AUTORSKÁ ČTENÍ s koncertem Petra Hejného (koncert se koná pouze za dobrého počasí).
Alja Adam / Axel Dietsch / Miloš Doležal / Markéta Hejná / Rudolf Jurolek / Nina Kremžar / Jiří Macháček / Michal Maršálek / Marie Steinerová

Všichni spolupracovníci festivalu Lenka a Peter Kuharovi.
Podrobnější informace najdete v programu a jednotlivých čteních na stránce www.festivalstranou.cz

www.festivalstranou.cz



The rise and annihilation of the Comanche, the most powerful Native American tribe in history, was discussed by Miroslav Černý, Mníslav Zelený, Jáchym Topol and Milan Gelnar.

25. 6. | The Comanche at the Václav Havel Library

US novelist S.C. Gwynn's *Empire of the Summer Moon* is a gripping account of the rise and crushing of the Comanche, the most powerful Native American tribe in history. It touches on the era of Spanish rule of the New World, the U.S. Civil War, the mass eradication of the bison and the advent of the railroad. Once again, it raises the cruel question of colonialism and genocide but does not shirk from describing the brutality of the Comanche free of any veneer of political correctness or even kitsch. The tribe were famed for their unequalled equestrian and martial skills as well as legendary fighting spirit, and halted both the expansion of a Spanish empire from Mexico and the French colonizers of Louisiana. However, they were unable to withstand Anglo-Saxon settlers, who were well-organized and possessed modern weaponry.

The book, which was widely reviewed in the US and was very warmly received by the American public, delivers a thrilling account of the clash between the rulers of the Great Plains and the conquering white civilisation, employing an objective approach to this complex and sensitive issue.

The guests of the debate included Milan Gelnar, director of the Argo publishing house; Miroslav Černý of the Department of English and American Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Ostrava University; Martin Svoboda, editor and translator (Pynchon, Bukowski, McCarthy, S.C. Gwynn etc.); and Mníslav Zelený-Atapana, an ethnologist and novelist. Jáchym Topol chaired the discussion and read excerpts. Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with Argo publishers.

6. 9. | Dora Kaprálová: Islands

In the short story collection *Ostrovny (Islands)* Dora Kaprálová explores intimate stories of the isolated nature of islands. Not only topographically, but above all in all the sense of insularity, isolation and delimitation.

Twenty-one short stories that describe in a sophisticated manner Kaprálová's auto-fictional world but first and foremost human lives packed with inconspicuous turning points and unexpected encounters that chill but, thanks to their authenticity and subtle humour, are also touching.

There's love in politics and politics in love, especially given the setting of the here and now, in a Central Europe that is shifting ever eastward.

Ivana Myšková introduced the book and Dora Kaprálová read excerpts.

Musical accompaniment was provided by Jakub Šimanský and Tomáš Niesner.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Druhé město publishing house.

20. 9. | Just a Normal Israeli Family

A discussion with the Israeli writer Eshkol Nevo about his novel *Three Floors Up*.

The novel is set in contemporary Tel Aviv but the themes it addresses are common to humanity and familiar to readers across all continents. It tells the stories of three inhabitants of a building in a quiet suburb. Nevo explores what happens when an "orderly" person living an utterly normal life encounters extraordinary situations. How deeply does it shake their world and the established order that governs it? Are characters' decisions and their consequences irreversible, or is there always a way back? And do the protagonists even want to go that way?

The novel *Three Floors Up* was a bestseller in Israel and ranks among Nevo's best.

It has been translated into more than 10 languages and should receive a film adaptation this year.

Hebrew Studies expert and translator Lenka Bukovská moderated the event and interpretation into Czech was provided.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation the Garmond publishing house.

24. 9. | The Pig and Perestroika

What do a pig and perestroika have in common? The answer was made clear at this evening comprising readings and archive footage. The head of the Dejvické divadlo theatre Martin Myšička and director of the Václav Havel Library Michael Žantovský read out a fictional interview with Václav Havel entitled *Prase aneb Václav Havel's Hunt for a Pig (The Pig, or Václav Havel's Hunt For A Pig)*. It was written for the amusement of the author and his guests, who had come to Hrádeček in summer 1987 to celebrate Olga Havlová's 54th birthday. The gathering was to include a real country pig-killing and Václav Havel was tasked with procuring a live pig.

The historical connection is made clear by Václav Havel's feuilleton *Setkání s Gorbačovem (A Meeting with Gorbachev)* from the same year and a recollection from Michael Žantovský's book *Havel* of a meeting that took place not long afterward, though, thank goodness, in an utterly different world.

26. 9. | For Jiří Stránský

The Czech branch of PEN International remembered Jiří Stránský. Jiří Dědeček served as host while PEN members, friends and colleagues also spoke.



Martin Myšička and Michael Žantovský read out *The Pig, or Václav Havel's Hunt for a Pig, a fictional interview with a journalist*.



11. 10. | Jan Němec: The Possibilities of the Romance Novel

On love and writing in an age of digital sorrow.

Why do people get together? What do we love about one another? And why do we still break up? Jan Němec, the author of an acclaimed novel about František Drtikol, *Dějiny světla* (*The History of Light*), has brought out a new book after six years, *Možnosti milostného románu* (*The Possibilities of the Romance Novel*). The extensive text at the intersection of a romance novel and essay on writing was one of the major releases from Host publishers that autumn. The event was chaired by Petr Vizina.



21. 10. | Evening with Pierre Michon, Laureate of 2019 Franz Kafka Prize

A meeting with novelist Pierre Michon, laureate of the prestigious 2019 Franz Kafka Prize, which recognizes exceptional literary work by major modern authors. Michon received the Prix France Culture for his very first book (*Vies minuscules*, Gallimard 1984), while he also earned one of France's most important awards, the Grand Prix du roman de l'Académie française, for his book *Les Onze*. He was also presented with the Petrarca-Preis, Prix Décembre and Prix Marguerite-Yourcenar.

The evening was hosted by Jovanka Šotolová, translator, editor-in-chief of *iLiteratura.cz* magazine and lecturer at the Institute of Translation Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University.

The event featured simultaneous interpretation from French to Czech and vice versa.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library and the Institut français in Prague in cooperation with the Franz Kafka Society and Paseka publishers

23. 10. | Lost in Translation V

Another round table organized jointly by the Václav Havel Library and the Czech Literary Translators' Guild, this time entitled *The influence of English on Czech: Where does enrichment end and contamination begin?*

The discussion focused on the adoption of language elements from English, not just words but frequently also elements of grammar. It explored the benefits of this influence but also its invasive or even parasitic form in an effort to determine at least roughly the line beyond which a mother tongue is no longer enriched but polluted. Last but not least, we considered how to approach Anglicisms in literary texts, including translations.

Guests: Daniela Iwashita (Bohemist and reviewer at the Institute for Czech Literature at the Czech Academy of Sciences),

Viktor Janiš (English Studies expert and translator) and Vít Penkala (English Studies expert and editor at Argo publishers) Václav Jamek hosted the evening.

1. 11. | David Hrbek: Words, Images, Rock'n'Roll

In his book *Slovo, Obraz, Rokenrol (Words, Images, Rock'n'Roll)*, David Hrbek speaks with musicians, photographers, writers and composers about the 1960s, rock'n'roll, the Beatles, freedom in art and first and foremost their own work, personal recollections and experiences. His interviewees include Mike McCartney, Václav Havel, Lou Reed, Suzanne Vega and Michael Nyman, and the book also features stories about Andy Warhol, Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton.

David Hrbek is a lecturer at the Olomouc Museum of Art, the dramaturge of the On-Stage Interviews series at the Švandovo divadlo theatre, an occasional musician and the author of a number of books, including *Šumný Vávra (Buzzing Vávra)*, *Všechno je sázka (Everything's a Wager)* and *Dvacet zářících drahokamů (Twenty Shining Gems)*.

The book's editor Jitka Hanušová conducted on-stage interviews with the author and his guests.

Organized at the Václav Havel Library by the Kniha Zlín publishing house.

8. 11. | Vladimír Mikulka: Battering Rams of the Future

Beraniidla Budoucnosti (Battering Rams of the Future) is a theatre play that demonstrates that conspiracy theories have always been true.

Who gave away the results of the Mariáš cards league? Who is my real dad? Who sold out the Velvet Revolution? What happened at Prague Castle in the 1990s? Who's spraying chemtrails on us? Only a fool would continue to swallow such deception – something should be done about it immediately.

Stage reading featuring Vladimír Mikulka, Kateřina Rudčenková, Jakub Škorpil and Martin J. Švejda. Music by Petr Mazúr. The Antonín Puchmajer theatre group grew out of the ruins of the Antonín Theatre Company, which itself grew out of the ruins of the Puchmajer Cultural Theatre Company founded in the early 1990s by then students at the Department of Theatre Science at Charles University's Faculty of Arts (today theatre critics and historians).

Antonín Puchmajer - Beraniidla budoucnosti



divadelní hra z přítomnosti, o osmi obrazech a devíti úřích



*Petr Himmel, Jáchym Topol, Beatrice Landovská and Libuše Šafránková introduced the memoir *It's Never Too Late (For a Happy Childhood)*.*

10. 11. | Psí Vojáci 40: Day and Evening of Remembrance

In honour of the 40th anniversary of their first official concert, we relived moments shared with the band Psí Vojáci during a day and evening of remembrance.

These celebrations were very much at the right venue in the Václav Havel Library. After all, it was thanks to Václav Havel that the group's front man Filip Topol appeared in public for the first time, playing before The Plastic People of the Universe at Hrádeček. A year later, the full band performed their first official concert within the Prague Jazz Days festival in 1979.

In the afternoon, we remembered them via the interactive exhibition Psí Vojáci: Music on the Canvas by Sára Svobodová, whose brushes moved to the rhythm of music that you can listen to on headphones placed by the paintings. We also looked back in an interview with the artist during the evening program. The evening concluded with performances by Vladivojna La Chia, with a repertoire of Psí Vojáci songs.

The evening was moderated by Anna Řeháková, coordinator of the exhibition Psí Vojáci: Music on the Canvas.

11. 11. | Beatrice Landovská: It's Never Too Late For a Happy Childhood

Beatrice Landovská's autobiographical book *Nikdy není pozdě na šťastné dětství (It's Never too Late for a Happy Childhood)* details the contented childhood of the daughter of actor Pavel Landovský. Excerpts were read by Libuška Šafránková, his old colleague from the golden age of the Činoherní klub theatre, when Russian dramas were performed (as referred to many times in the book). The great figures of the 1960s are also featured in the book: Pavel Juráček, Jan Němec, Václav Havel and Ludvík Vaculík. The memoir centres on the period 1962–1976 and recounts events in the Prague district of Vokovice, Pardubice, Kytlice and other places in Bohemia, as well as a trip to Bulgaria.

"Is there such a thing as childhood? All that exists is what we remember. And when our memories go, even that won't exist. When we become adults only we adults are responsible for our childhoods."

Whoever was around then will remember and whoever wasn't will learn how wonderful a Prague childhood could be...

Jáchym Topol led the talk with Beatrice Landovská while the book's editor, Petr Himmel, launched the gathering.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Garamond publishing house.

16.11. | The Garden Party Here and Now! Theatre Night 2019

The young Sedlčany theatre company NAŠLOSE rendered Václav Havel's and one of his most famous plays, as a documentary about contemporary society in a town with a population of 8,000.

The hero of the first Czech absurdist drama, the eager, docile and malleable Hugo Pludek, a chess-loving member of the middle classes, soon grasps the mechanisms of career advancement; he becomes a master of empty phrases and dominates the world of initiators and liquidators.

Featuring: Martin Pešek, Zuzana Trojanová, Petr Svoboda, Anna Novotná, Libor Nulíček, Jana Durdáková and others. Director: Jaroslava Trojanová.

25. 11. | Václav Havel: Protest, Divadlo na tahu

To sign or not to sign? A play about a complicated question and an even more complicated answer. A one-acter on a dilemma that represents one of Havel's essential themes. Times are bad again, with petitions and protests multiplying at home and abroad – but what is the point of them? Do the actions of (some) citizens affect the actions and consciences of politicians? Is that enough? We remembered a lesser-known "Vaněk" play: Václav Havel's 1978 play *Protest*.

Performed by the Divadlo na tahu theatre.

Directed by Andrej Krob and featuring Karel Beseda and Radek Bár.

5. 12. | Daniel Hradecký: Approaching Wood

On the occasion of the publication of his new collection *Přiblížování dřeva (Approaching Wood)*, poet Daniel Hradecký presented his own poems as well as works by other writers linked to Litvínov, such as Josef Jedlička and Pavel Růžek.

The owner of the Perplex publishing house, Martin Kubík, and its editor-in-chief (and the book's editor), Dan Jedlička, spoke with the author.

Organized by the Václav Havel Library in cooperation with the Perplex publishing house.

16. 12. | Olga Housková: Family Album

In short texts, photographic portraits and family snaps, the book *Rodinné album (Family Album)* maps the 20th century from the perspective of photographer Olga Housková (1919–2015), who grew up in the milieu of the First Republic avant garde together with her twin sister. Housková came of age in the circle surrounding the magazine *Mladá kultura* and ran a photo studio with her sister during the war, where alongside children's and



An evening marking the publication of Daniel Hradecký's poetry collection *Approaching Wood*.



The 20th century from the perspective of photographer Olga Housková.

portrait photography they were involved in the resistance and helped Jewish friends, many of whom died in concentration camps. She later worked as the photographer at the Divadlo na Vinohrady theatre for many years. All of this is the subject of a succinct, even laconic memoir and 120 photographs from the albums Housková created during her life.

Episodes from everyday life feature well-known names from her close circle, while major historical events are scarcely touched on. Memoirs, memory, photography, the phenomenon of the family album and “big” history were all discussed by Vlasta Dufková, Anna Housková, Mariana Machová and Josef Moucha. Jan Šulc hosted the event.

Education

The Václav Havel Library's educational projects are focused on elementary school pupils and secondary school and tertiary 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 field of education 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 in Czech public life.

Year of Revolution

In 2019, the Václav Havel Library created a new online educational project for primary and secondary schools entitled Year of Revolution: www.rokrevoluce.cz. In eight short three- to four-minute video lessons, we guided young viewers through the revolutionary year of 1989 and its events not only in Czechoslovakia, but also in the surrounding countries. The lessons were gradually published from January to December 2019, making pupils and students more aware of the causality of historical time. The videos were accompanied by the character of a fictional young YouTuber named Anna, the lessons were recorded in a lively YouTuber style, we made use of witty animation and period footage and the music for the opening jingle was provided by the group Zrní. Methodological material for teachers and a worksheet for students were available for each lesson.

The project met with a great response from schools and involved 540 teachers, 120 of whom were from secondary vocational schools. We consider the involvement of this target group, which is less interested in social science projects, a major success.

The project was nominated for the Eduina Prize in 2019 and made the shortlist of 10 most innovative projects.

The project was supported by a grant from the City of Prague.

The Read Havel reading-educational project

In 2019 the Václav Havel Library carried on with a reading project entitled Read Havel (www.cisthavla.cz / www.facebook.com/cisthavla), which familiarizes young people with Václav Havel as a literary figure by means of short videos. We focused in 2019 on collaborating with leading theatre companies and their well-known actors. Thanks to them, we managed to present two complex dramatic texts by Václav Havel, namely Temptation (performed by Ivan Trojan and Martin Myšička from the theatre Dejvické divadlo) and The Garden Party (performed by several actors from the current company at the Divadlo Na Zábradlí theatre: Jana Plodková, Jan Hájek, Jakub Žáček, Magdaléna Sidonová, Petr Čtvrtníček, Jiří Černý). In a miniseries of three excerpts from The Garden Party, we acquainted young readers more deeply with Havel's poetics and the principles of absurdist drama.

Since its launch in 2017, the project has enjoyed major interest from schools and a positive response from the general public on social networks. Over 360 elementary and secondary school teachers from all over the Czech Republic are involved. Its Facebook profile has over 2,600 followers and the videos have garnered more than 360,000 views. The Václav Havel Library is continuing the project in 2020.

Man of inspiration: Human rights through the life and work of Václav Havel online course

The online educational course *Man of Inspiration* (www.vaclavhavel.cz/elearning), launched at the end of 2018, is constantly and repeatedly being used by schools; at present, 220 teachers from elementary and secondary schools throughout the Czech Republic are involved. Against the backdrop of Václav Havel's life story, young viewers are introduced to 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 project reached the 2018 final of the annual Eduina Prize for innovative educational projects run by the organisation EDUin.

Václav Havel's Bookshelves

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. Seven schools acquired Václav Havel Little Libraries in 2018 and another five did so in 2019.

Best Student Essay Competition 2019

The face of our country, or How do you view the face of the country in which you live? Is Czechia an earthly paradise for the eyes?

Václav Havel's essays, such as *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 11th edition responded to current challenges in the area of the environment and climate, with students able to take inspiration from Václav Havel's speeches on that issue.

In 2019, the Václav Havel Library received a total of 60 student essays from 21 schools and 10 regions of the Czech Republic. The best work was selected by a five-member jury comprising:

- writer Petra Dvořáková
- poet and musician Jonáš Hájek
- critic and editor focused on architecture and urbanism Karolína Jirkalová
- Respekt weekly journalist Ondřej Kundra
- geobotanist Jan Albert Šturma

Overview of winners

- 1st place Eliška PEŘICHOVÁ, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- 2nd place Samuel ŠMÍD, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- 3rd place Runa KOBLIHOVÁ, Archbishop's Grammar School, Kroměříž

The jury also bestowed three honourable mentions:

- Klára Hellerová, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- Alžběta Volhejnová, Jan Kepler Grammar School, Prague
- David Zeman, Brno Grammar School, Křenová

The ceremonial announcement of the winners took place at the Václav Havel Library on 5 December 2019 in the presence of students and teachers from the schools involved and jury members.

For the fourth time, the competition was supported by a grant from the Czech Ministry of Culture.

The Havel in a Nutshell and Velvet Prague Workshop

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, we created a new workshop entitled Velvet Prague, which was offered to schools in parallel with our traditional Havel in a Nutshell workshop. Both interactive workshops take place on the Library's own premises and were in major demand in 2019; in the course of the year they were used by 64 school classes and groups, with a total of over 1,600 pupils and students learning about Václav Havel and the events of 1989. Alongside Nina Rutová, our permanent instructor, we entered into cooperation with two new instructors: Lucie Zichová, who specialises in preschool children and elementary school first grade

pupils, and Denisa Šedivá, author of the publication *ABCZ aneb H jako Havel*.

The Velvet Prague Project was supported financially by the City of Prague.

The Václav Havel Library's 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 "footprint". Within guided tours combined with workshops, elementary 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 20th century Czech history?

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

March

26. 3. Sušice Grammar School
Kino Sušice

27. 3. Vimperk Sports Grammar School
Strakonice Grammar School

September

24. 9. Vodňany Grammar School
Písek Library
Strakonice Library

October

7. 10. Sokolov Grammar School
Municipal Library Locket

22. 10. Žďár nad Sázavou Grammar School
Kroměříž Grammar School

23. 10. Nový Jičín Grammar School
Příbor Grammar School
Avion Café Český Těšín

November

19. 11. Matěj Josef Sychra Library Kutná Hora

December

3. 12. Milovice Library
Volnočasové centrum Mnichovo Hradiště

Other debates in the regions

March

5. 3. Secondary Medical School and Higher Vocational
Medical School, Karlovy Vary

31. 3. Blatná

November

5. 11. Theatre and Revolution, Faculty of Arts,
Charles University,
Department of Theatre Studies

7. 11. Municipal Library Litomyšl, University of the Third
Age

13. 11. Divadlo Horní Počernice theatre

December

11. 12. Nučice Elementary School – discussion with pupils –
2 classes

Visitors, Social Networks, Media

In 2019, we organized a total of 158 club events for the general public. Total attendance reached 12,397, people, the average attendance was 78 persons per event. The constantly high level of attendance is due to our efforts to continually improve our program and to find new and topical subjects as well as ways to present them. The 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution also contributed to the rise in attendance at the VH Library in 2019.

In addition, we organized two major conferences: The Václav Havel European Dialogues, which was attended by close to 300 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 2019 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize was attended by around 250 people.

Individual monthly visits to the website www.vaclavhavel.cz hovered at around 10,000. Visitor numbers grew rapidly in autumn 2019 when we marked the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution. 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 the access to the Documentation Centre's online archive.

The website www.vaclavhavel.cz also serves as a signpost to the individual websites of the Library's major projects:

www.rokrevoluce.cz
www.denikrevoluce.cz
www.zmenitsvet.cz
www.manofinspiration.org
www.cisthavra.cz
www.rozhovoryvh.cz
www.othereurope.com
www.havelnavzdy.cz
www.havlovy-deti.cz
www.provolani19.cz

In 2019, the Library further intensified its activities in the field of multimedia. For the most part, this work is carried out by the Library in-house. Most events are recorded and then posted on the Library's YouTube channel. Edited videos are made of the most noteworthy events and we also produce teasers for our programs. At the end of 2019, the YouTube channel had recorded 782,503 views.

The Library was as ever active on social media. At the end of the year, its Facebook profile had 36,000 followers (for comparison, at the end of 2018 the figure was 31,000). On Twitter, the Library had 5,580 followers at the end of the year (compared to 5,100 at the end of 2018). Interest is also increasing on Instagram.

The Library sends out a weekly e-newsletter with the program and occasional teasers for forthcoming events; people can register to receive it on the website. At the end of 2019, the total number of registered e-newsletter subscribers stood at almost 15,000.

The Václav Havel Library appeared in 925 articles and broadcasts in media monitored by the company Newton Media (in 2018 the figure was 810). In 2019, the trend of information shifting from monitored media to social networks continued.



Financial Reports

Expenditures 2019

(in thousands of CZK)

Documentation Centre	4 338
Publications	2 990
World of Václav Havel	936
Václav Havel European Dialogues	314
Václav Havel Prize	664
Club	4 824
Education	1 913
Hey, it's Havel	15
Havel Forever	9
Administration and overheads	3 228

TOTAL **19 231**

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
2019	19 231

Incomes from donations, grants and own activities 2019

Revenues from own activities	
Revenues from sale of own products and goods	1 390
Sale of services	680
Interest and differences in exchange rates	37
Other revenues	33

TOTAL **2 140**

Financial donations received 2019

Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala	11 200
Asiana	500
Barta Jan	100
Horak Silke	250
Knapp Petr	100
Letiště Prague, a. s.	600
Moneta Money Bank, a.s.	500
Muzeum romského národního obrození, z.s.	100
Nadace The Sekyra Foundation	550
Václav Havel Library Foundation (VHLF)	418
VŠEM	200
Klub přátel Knihovny VH – Havel Forever	78
Other donors (< 100)	590

TOTAL **15 186**

Grants used in 2019

City of Prague – club program	550
City of Prague – targeted grant – Year of Revolution	95
City of Prague – Velvet Prague	80
Czech Ministry of Culture – literary evenings	300
Czech Ministry of Culture – essay competition	33
Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs – VH European Dialogues	94
Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Czech-Polish Forum	290
State Culture Fund – Publication of VH theatre plays	70
Embassy of the USA – Getting the Message Across	199
European Commission – EACEA	285
Visegrad Fund	104

TOTAL **2 100**



Fundraising and Own Revenues

In 2019, the Václav Havel Library further intensified its efforts to diversify its financial resources within all of its areas of revenue.

The main source of finance in 2019 was the long-term support of programs and operations provided by the Fondation Zdeněk et Michaela Bakala. The foundation reduced its contribution in 2019 by CZK 0.5 million to CZK 11.2 million year-on-year. By contrast, there was an increase in the amount acquired in the form of donations from small donors, which in 2019 reached CZK 3,986 thousand (compared to CZK 1,269 thousand in 2018).

The Václav Havel Library enjoyed success with a number of grant applications. The City of Prague provided a total of CZK 550 thousand for its club program in the form of an arts grant. Alongside the grant for year-round club activities, the City of Prague also provided an individual targeted grant of CZK 95 thousand to support the project *Year of Revolution* targeted at elementary and secondary schools; it mapped the revolutionary year of 1989 from the eyes of a fictional YouTuber. *Velvet Prague*, workshops for elementary school pupils, received a grant from the City of Prague's educational division amounting to CZK 80 thousand.

A grant of CZK 300,000, which the Library traditionally receives from the Czech Ministry of Culture, went toward literature. As every year the Ministry of Culture also contributed CZK 33 thousand to another edition of the best student essay competition that the VH Library runs for secondary school pupils throughout the Czech Republic. The State Culture Fund of the Czech Republic supported to the amount of CZK 90 thousand (of which CZK 20 thousand was used in 2018 and CZK 70 thousand in 2019) the publication of a series of selected VH theatre plays for students: the publications *Chyť zajíce, ať ho máš!* (*Catch the Hare So You've Got Him!*) and *Já nejsem smutný (I'm Not Sad)* came out at the very close of 2019.

In 2019, the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs contributed CZK 94 thousand to the organizing of the international conference Václav Havel European Dialogues; the Representation of the European Commission also supported the project financially, as it does every year. The Czech-Polish Forum supported *Revolution Through a Lens*, a project of the Václav Havel Library and the Polish Institution in Prague, to the amount of CZK 290 thousand.

The Embassy of the USA in Prague contributed CZK 199 thousand to the project *Getting the Message Across*, which was aimed at mapping and analysing unofficial ties in the fields of the arts and media between Czechoslovakia and the USA prior to 1989.

The international project *The Other Europe* was supported by multi-year grants from the European Commission (EACEA – Europe for Citizens program) and the Visegrad Fund. In the years 2019 – 2022 the VH Library and partners from the V4 states and Germany will gradually process and make public unique *The Other Europe* audio-visual footage acquired free of charge from the Imperial War Museum in London thanks to Jacques Rupnik. The material has been digitized thanks to the generous help from the National Film Archive.

The most significant private donors in 2019 were the companies Moneta Money Bank a.s., Asiana, s.r.o., Letiště Prague, Václav Havel Library Foundation and the Sekyra Foundation.

Revenues from our own activities reached CZK 2,140 thousand in 2019 (it was CZK 2,265 thousand in 2018). Revenues from the sales of our own products, mainly books, amounted to CZK 1,390 thousand (compared to CZK 1,080 thousand in 2018). Two new titles published by the Václav Havel Library in 2019



contributed most significantly to the sales: *Kančí na daňčím. Kuchařka Václava Havla (Wild Boar on Venison: The Václav Havel Cookbook)* and *Má to smysl! (It's Worth Doing!)*, an anthology of pre-1989 interviews with VH.

In October 2019 – on the anniversary of Václav Havel's birth – the VH Library launched a public collection for its projects subtitled *Havel Forever*. By making contributions, small donors become members of the Club of Friends of the Václav Havel Library: www.havelnavzdy.cz. The funds obtained from the public collection will be regularly used for the VH Library projects benefiting the public. In 2019, the amount reached was CZK 78 thousand. A transparent account was set up at Moneta Money Bank for the public collection:
<https://transparentniucty.moneta.cz/homepage?accountNumber=70777077>.

Auditor's Report and Financial Statements as of 31 December 2019

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 **31.12.2019**

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	+2,014	+1,962
A. I.	Intangible assets	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	002	+2,426	+2,668
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	+1,601	+1,843
6.	Intangible assets under construction	účet 041	008		
7.	Advances for intangible assets Intangible assets	účet 051	009		
A. II.	Tangible fixed assets	A.II.1+...+A.II.x	010	+2,267	+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	+990	+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	-2,679	-2,973
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	-975	-1,215
6.	Accumulated depreciations of buildings	účet 081	034		
7.	Accumulated depreciations of movable assets and sets of movable assets	účet 082	035	-879	-933
8.	Accumulated depreciations of cultivated areas	účet 085	036		
9.	Accumulated depreciations of livestock	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	+4,597	+6,285
B. I.	Inventory	B.I.1+...+B.I.x	041	+2,683	+2,771
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	+74	+112
4.	Semi-finished products	účet 122	045		
5.	Finished products	účet 123	046	+2,469	+2,520
6.	Livestock (herd and draught animals)	účet 124	047		
7.	Merchandise in store	účet 132	048	+140	+139
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	+956	+949
B. II. 1.	Customers	účet 311	052	+386	+332
2.	Bills of exchange to be collected	účet 312	053		
3.	Receivables for discounted securities	účet 313	054		
4.	Advance payments made	účet 314 - ř. 51	055	+554	+578
5.	Other receivables	účet 315	056		+26
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	+13
9.	Other direct taxes	účet 342	060		
10.	Value added tax	účet 343	061		
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	+6	
19.	Depreciations to receivables	účet 391	070		
B. III.	Short-term financial assets total	B.III.1+...+B.III.x	071	+646	+2,267
B. III. 1.	Cash on hand	účet 211	072	+12	+14
2.	Stamps and vouchers	účet 213	073	+13	+12
3.	Bank accounts	účet 221	074	+621	+2,241
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	+312	+298
B. IV. 1.	Deferred expenses	účet 381	080	+312	+298
2.	Accrued revenue	účet 385	081		
	TOTAL ASSETS	A.+B.	082	+6,611	+8,247

Ident.	LIABILITIES	line	Accounting period		
			at the first day	balance at the last day	
A.	Own resources	A.I.+...+A.II.	001	+126	+104
A. I.	Equity	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	002	+126	+104
A. I. 1.	Own equity	účet 901	003	+66	+66
2.	Funds	účet 911	004	+60	+38
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
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	+6,485	+8,143
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	+2,671	+2,348
B. III. 1.	Suppliers	účet 321	022	+688	+345
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	+302	+1
5.	Employees	účet 331	026	+433	+394
6.	Other payables to employees	účet 333	027	+1	
7.	Payables to social security and health insurance	účet 336	028	+396	+218
8.	Income taxes	účet 341	029		
9.	Other direct taxes	účet 342	030	+163	+67
10.	Value added tax	účet 343	031	+22	+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	+18	+36
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	+550	+1,265
23.	Other short-term financial assistance	účet 249	044		
B. IV.	Other liabilities	B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x	045	+70	+2,051
B. IV. 1.	Accrued expenses	účet 383	046		
2.	Deferred revenue	účet 384	047	+70	+2,051
	LIABILITIES	A.+B.	048	+6,611	+8,247

Date of compilation: 19.06.2020	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

Registered office

Praha 1
11000

as at **31.12.2019**

From: **1.1.2019** To: **31.12.2019**

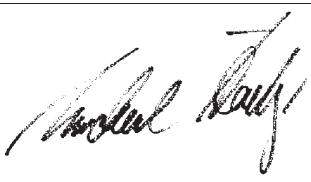
in thousands CZK

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

Seal

Ident.	PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT	line	Accounting period		
			Main	Business	Total
A.	Expenses	A.I.+...+A.VIII. 001	+19,231		+19,231
A. I.	Consumed spendings total	A.I.1+...+A.I.x 002	+10,268		+10,268
A. I. 1.	Consumed materials, energy consumption, consumption of other non-inventory items	účty 501, 502, 503 003	+555		+555
2.	Merchandise sold	účet 504 004	+6		+6
3.	Repairs and maintenance	účet 511 005	+28		+28
4.	Travelling expenses	účet 512 006	+213		+213
5.	Representation expenses	účet 513 007	+317		+317
6.	Other services	účet 518 008	+9,149		+9,149
A. II.	Change in work-in-progress and activation	A.II.1+...+A.II.x 009	-355		-355
A. II. 7.	Change in work-in-progress	účtv 561, 562, 563, 564 010	-355		-355
8.	Aktivation of material, goods and internal services	účtv 571, 572 011			
9.	Aktivation of intangibles	účtv 573, 574 012			
A. III.	Personal expenses total	A.III.1+...+A.III.x 013	+8,712		+8,712
A. III. 10.	Wages and salaries	účet 521 014	+6,566		+6,566
11.	Legal social insurance	účet 524 015	+2,146		+2,146
12.	Other social insurance	účet 525 016			
13.	Legal social security expenses	účet 527 017			
14.	Other social security expenses	účet 528 018			
A. IV.	Taxes total	A.IV.1+...+A.IV.x 019	+1		+1
A. IV. 15.	Taxes total	účtv 531, 532, 538 020	+1		+1
A. V.	Other expenses total	A.V.1+...+A.V.x 021	+157		+157
A. V. 16.	Contractual fines, interest on late payments, other fines and penalties	účtv 541, 542 022	+3		+3
17.	Write-off of receivables	účet 543 023	+2		+2
18.	Interest expense	účet 544 024			
19.	Foreign exchange losses	účet 545 025	+87		+87
20.	Gifts	účet 546 026	+5		+5
21.	Shortages and damage	účet 548 027	+1		+1
22.	Other expenses	účet 549 028	+59		+59
A. VI.	Depreciations, sold property, additions to reserves total	A.VI.1+...+A.VI.x 029	+448		+448
A. VI. 23.	Depreciation expenses of intangible and tangible fixed assets	účet 551 030	+293		+293
24.	Net book value of intangible and tangible fixed assets sold	účet 552 031			
25.	Shares and ownership interests sold	účet 553 032			
26.	Materials sold	účet 554 033			
27.	Additions to reserves and provisions	účtv 556, 559 034	+155		+155
A. VII.	Membership fees total	A.VII.1+...+A.VII.x 035			
A. VII. 28.	Membership fees and operating contributions paid to branch	účtv 581, 582 036			
A. VIII.	Income tax	A.VIII.1+...+A.VIII.x 037			
A. VIII. 29.	Income tax	účet 591 038			
	Expenses Total	039	+19,231		+19,231
B.	Revenues	040	+19,122	+109	+19,231
B. I.	Operating subsidies	B.I.1+...+B.I.x 041	+2,100		+2,100
B. I. 1.	Operating subsidies	účet 691 042	+2,100		+2,100
B. II.	Accepted contributions total	B.II.1+...+B.II.x 043			
B. II. 2.	Received operating contributions	účet 681 044			
3.	Received donations	účet 682 045			
4.	Received membership fees	účet 684 046			
B. III.	Revenues from own efficient	účty 601, 602, 603 047	+1,959	+109	+2,068

Ident.	PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT	line	Accounting period		
			Main	Business	Total
B. IV.	Other revenues total	B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x 048	+15,061		+15,061
B. IV. 5.	Contractual fines, interest on late payments and other fines and penalties	účet 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	+36		+36
9.	Accounting for funds	účet 648 053	+14,991		+14,991
10.	Other revenues	účet 649 054	+33		+33
B. V.	Revenues from sales of property	B.V.1+...+B.V.x 055	+2		+2
B. V. 11.	Revenues from sales of intangible and tangible fixed assets	účet 652 056	+2		+2
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	+19,122	+109	+19,231
C.	Profit (loss) before taxation (r. 63 - 33)	B. - A.I.1-...-A.VII.x + C. x. 062	-109	+109	+0
D.	Profit (loss) after taxation	B. - A. + D. x. 063	-109	+109	+0

Date of compilation: 19.06.2020	Signature of statutory body 
Legal form	
Entrepreneurial activity	

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
(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 Václav Havel Library”) was established on 26 July 2004 by registration in the Commercial Register lodged with 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 related educational and popularising activities.

Registered office of the Company

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 2019

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

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

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
(in thousands of CZK)

Members of the Supervisory Board as of 31 December 2019

Emil Holub

Ondřej Jonáš

Luděk Niedermayer

Company founders

Dagmar Havlová

Miloslav Petrušek

Karel Schwarzenberg

Upon establishment, the Company founders pledged investment contributions amounting to a total 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 2019, there were no changes in the Register of Public Benefit Companies.

The Vaclav Havel Library

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
(in thousands of CZK)

2. Fundamental accounting polices applied by the Company

The Company's accounting is maintained and the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Act 563/1991 Coll. on Accounting, as amended, Decree No. 504/2002 Coll., which implements certain provisions of Act No. 563/1991 Coll. on Accounting, for accounting entities whose main subject of activity is not business, if they use the double-entry bookkeeping system, as amended, and with the Czech Accounting Standards for these accounting entities, as amended.

The accounting respects the general accounting principles, in particular the principle of valuing assets at historical cost (unless otherwise stated below), the accrual principle, the principle of prudence and the assumption of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The Company's financial statements have been prepared as of the balance sheet date of 31. 12. 2019 for the accounting period from 1. 1. 2019 to 31. 12. 2019; the comparable period is the accounting period from 1. 1. 2018 to 31. 12. 2018.

The financial data in these financial statements are expressed in thousands of Czech crowns (CZK), unless otherwise stated below.

- (a) Method used to process accounting records and the method and place used to store such records.

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 an acquisition price of up to TCZK 40 and fixed intangible assets worth 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/amortisation 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

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Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
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(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 recognised in the course of the year.

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are converted as of the balance sheet date 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

Work in progress and finished products (books) include material, payroll and other direct costs. The decrease is valued using the weighted arithmetic average method.

Goods are valued at their acquisition prices. The acquisition price includes the price of acquisition and any secondary acquisition costs (e.g., transport). The decrease in inventory is valued using the weighted arithmetic average method.

The adjustment to slow-moving and obsolete stocks is established on the basis of an analysis of inventory movements and on the basis of an individual assessment.

(e) Received and provided gifts

The Company recognises 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:

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

3. Fixed assets

(a) Intangible assets

	Software	Other intangibles	Total 2019	Total 2018
Acquisition price				
Balance as of 1.1.	825	1 601	2 426	2 369
Additions	--	242	242	57
Disposals	--	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--	--
Balance as of 31.12.	825	1 843	2 668	2 426
Accumulated amortisation				
Balance as of 1.1.	825	975	1 800	1 533
Amortisation expenses	--	240	240	267
Disposals	--	--	--	--
Transfers	--	--	--	--

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Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
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Balance as of 31.12.	825	1 215	2 040	1 800
Net book value as of 1.1.	--	626	626	836
Net book value as of 31.12.	--	628	628	626

(b) Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment, furniture	Artworks and collections	Total 2019	Total 2018
Acquisition price				
Balance as of 1.1.	990	1 277	2 267	2 266
Additions	--	--	--	91
Disposals	--	--	--	-90
Transfers	--	--	--	--
Balance as of 31.12.	990	1 277	2 267	2 267
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance as of 1.1.	879	--	879	841
Depreciation expenses	54	--	54	128
Disposals	--	--	--	-90
Transfers	--	--	--	--
Balance as of 31.12.	933	--	933	879
Net book value as of 1.1.	111	1 277	1 388	1 425
Net book value as of 31.12.	57	1 277	1 334	1 388

4. Bank accounts

Funds are held in current accounts denominated in CZK, USD and EUR. The balance in bank accounts as of 31 December 2019 is TCZK 2,241 (2018 – TCZK 621).

5. Receivables and liabilities

(a) Receivables

Receivables amount to a total of TCZK 949 (2018 – TCZK 956), of which TCZK 109 (2018 – TCZK 42) is overdue. Operating advances represent advances for lease-related services amounting to a total of TCZK 307 (2018 – TCZK 283) and a principal to the rent amounting to a total of TCZK 271 (2018 – TCZK 271).

(b) Liabilities

Short-term liabilities amount to a total of TCZK 2,323 (2018 – TCZK 2,671), of which TCZK 175 (2018 – TCZK 302) is overdue.

The Company records a long-term liability as of 31 December 2019 based on an interest-free loan of TCZK 3,744 (2018 – TCZK 3,744) provided to the Company in January 2011 for operational purposes, which is due by 10 January 2021 at the latest.

6. Deferred Expenses

Deferred expenses total TCZK 298 (2018 – TCZK 312) and primarily represent the deferred cost of the insurance costs, rent and film production.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
(in thousands of CZK)

7. Inventory

The inventory of finished products as of 31 December 2019 totals TCZK 2,520 (2018 – TCZK 2,469) and consists of the stock of the library's own book production. This amount consists of the inventory of finished products amounting to a total of TCZK 2,672 and adjustment amounting to a total of TCZK 152.

The inventory of finished goods as of 31 December 2019 totals TCZK 139 (2018 – TCZK 140) and represents the stock of books and DVDs intended for sale as part of the "Vaclav Havel in a Nutshell" exhibition. This amount consists of the inventory of goods amounting to a total of TCZK 141 and adjustment amounting to a total of TCZK 2.

Work-in-progress as of 31 December 2019 totals TCZK 112 (2018 – TCZK 74) and represents unfinished books from own production.

As of 31 December 2019, the total amount of inventory not posted in the balance sheet was TCZK 636 (2018 – TCZK 1,101), of which TCZK 74 (2018 – TCZK 91) was attributable to other parties' books in consignment sale and books registered in the archive amounted to TCZK 562 (2018 – TCZK 550).

8. Own resources

	Equity	Funds	Total
Balance as of 1.1.2019	66	60	126
Transfer of profits	--	--	--
Donations received	--	15 186	15 186
Donations provided	--	-217	-217
Change in fund balance	--	-14 991	-14 991
Profit of 2019	--	--	--
Balance as of 31.12.2019	66	38	104

9. Employees and executives

Average number of employees and personnel costs in 2019 and 2018:

Year	Average number of employees	Wages and salaries	Social security and health insurance expenses	Social expenses
2019				
Employees	10	6 566	2 146	--
2018				
Employees	10	6 435	2 095	--

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Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
(in thousands of CZK)

10. Bonuses and loans to statutory, board and other members

During 2019 and 2018, the Company paid bonuses to the statutory body arising from the post; these costs are reflected in the personnel costs. No bonuses or loans were paid or provided to members of the Board of Trustees and Supervisory Board in 2019 or 2018. 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 2019 or 2018.

11. Payables arising from social security and health insurance

Payables arising from social security and health insurance amount to TCZK 218 (2018 – TCZK 396), of which TCZK 151 (2018 – TCZK 276) is attributable to social security liabilities, and TCZK 68 (2018 – TCZK 120) is attributable to health insurance liabilities. None of the above liabilities are overdue.

12. Other direct taxes and subsidies

Other direct taxes representing advances for natural person income tax amount to TCZK 67 (2018 – TCZK 163). None of the above liabilities are overdue.

In 2019 the Company consumed subsidies amounting to a total of TCZK 2,100 (2018 – TCZK 1,718), of which TCZK 1,512 (2018 – TCZK 1,529) are represented by state subsidies and the remaining TCZK 588 (2018 – TCZK 189) from other donors.

13. Deferred revenues

In 2019, the Company received subsidies and grants amounting to a total of TCZK 4,151 (2018 – TCZK 1,788), of which TCZK 2,051 (2018 – TCZK 70) will be consumed in 2020; the amount is recorded as Deferred revenue.

14. Information on the Company's projects

As in the previous period, the Company organised a number of public and club meetings in 2019. The "Vaclav Havel in a Nutshell" exhibition in Ostrovní Street in Prague's New Town is open to the public.

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

15. Information on the remuneration for the statutory auditors

The total remuneration received by the auditor amounts to TCZK 1 (2018 – TCZK 1) and represents the statutory fees for the audit of the financial statements.

16. Income tax

The Company reported a tax liability from its activities subject to corporate income tax of TCZK 0 (2018 – TCZK 6).

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Notes to the Financial Statements

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The provisions of the Income Tax Act were employed in the calculation of corporate income tax and the tax base was reduced by TCZK 142 (2018 – TCZK 300) under Section 20, article 7.

17. Public collection

In 2019, the Company was allowed a public collection under No. MHMP 1536691/2019. The public collection can be held throughout the Czech Republic from 5 August 2019 for an indefinite period.

The public collection will be carried out in accordance with Act No. 117/2001 Coll., in the manner stipulated by Section 9 par. 1 a) of the Act on Public Collections, i.e. by collecting contributions on a previously announced special bank account No. 19.06.2020 190717077/0600 established with MONETA Money Bank, Ltd., and further according to Section 9 par. 1 g) of the Public Collections Act, i.e. by depositing cash in a cash register set up by a legal entity.

The Company is obliged to submit the first interim statement as of 30 June 2020 to the City of Prague for inspection no later than by 30 September 2020. Further interim statements will be processed every year.

18. Administrative costs

The Company's administrative costs for 2019 total TCZK 3,228 (2018 – TCZK 3,239). Their structure is as follows:

2019	Total costs	Of which administrative costs
Consumed purchases and services	10 268	1 452
Change in internally-developed inventory and own work capitalised	-355	--
Personnel expenses	8 712	1 593
Taxes and fees	1	--
Other expenses	157	147
Depreciation, assets sold, creation of provisions and adjustment	448	36
Corporate income tax	0	0
Total	19 231	3 228

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Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended on 31 December 2019
(in thousands of CZK)

2018	Total costs	Of which administrative costs
Consumed purchases and services	9 271	1 447
Change in internally-developed inventory and own work capitalised	-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

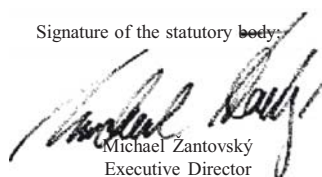
19. Material subsequent events

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 of 31 December 2019.

With respect to the current global scale of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is highly probable that the Company will feel the economic impact of the crisis in 2020. The Company continuously evaluates this impact, but is not yet able to reliably quantify it. However, it is taking preventive measures and all steps to mitigate the operational and financial consequences.

Date: 19. 06. 2020

Signature of the statutory body:



Michael Zantovský
Executive Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Founder of
Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s.

Having its registered office at: Ostrovní 129/13, Nové Město, 110 00 Prague 1

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. (hereinafter also the "Company") prepared on the basis of accounting regulations applicable in the Czech Republic, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2019, and the profit and loss account for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. as at 31 December 2019, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with accounting regulations applicable in the Czech Republic.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Act on Auditors and Auditing Standards of the Chamber of Auditors of the Czech Republic, which are International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), as amended by the related application guidelines. Our responsibilities under this law and regulation are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the Act on Auditors and the Code of Ethics adopted by the Chamber of Auditors of the Czech Republic and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Matter

The financial statements of Knihovna Václava Havla, o.p.s. for the year ended 31 December 2018 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on 21 June 2019.

Other Information in the Annual Report

In compliance with Section 2(b) of the Act on Auditors, the other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and auditor's report thereon. The Statutory Body is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. In addition, we assess whether the other information has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with applicable law or regulation, in particular, whether the other information complies with law or regulation in terms of formal requirements and procedure for preparing the other information in the context of materiality, i.e. whether any non-compliance with these requirements could influence judgments made on the basis of the other information.

Based on the procedures performed, to the extent we are able to assess it, we report that:

- The other information describing the facts that are also presented in the financial statements is, in all material respects, consistent with the financial statements; and
- The other information is prepared in compliance with applicable law or regulation.

In addition, our responsibility is to report, based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company obtained in the audit, on whether the other information contains any material misstatement of fact. Based on the procedures we have performed on the other information obtained, we have not identified any material misstatement of fact.

Responsibilities of the Company's Statutory Body and Supervisory Board for the Financial Statements

The Statutory Body is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting regulations applicable in the Czech Republic and for such internal control as the Statutory Body determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Statutory Body is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Statutory Body either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Supervisory Board is responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the above law or regulation, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Statutory Body.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Statutory Body's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Statutory Body and Supervisory Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

In Prague on 19 June 2020

Audit firm:

Deloitte Audit s.r.o.
registration no. 079

Statutory auditor:

Jiří Sauer
registration no. 2301

