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The Institute for Contemporary History of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences was established in 1990 as a result of an agreement between the representatives of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and the Historical Commission of the Civic Forum's Coordination Centre. Pursuant to

Act No. 341/2005 Coll., the Institute became a public research institution as of 1 January 2007.

The primary task of the Institute is to carry out a basic, interdisciplinary study of the social processes that, as a whole, constitute in an international context, Czechoslovak (Czech and Slovak) history from 1938 to the present time.

Joint Research Centre

With the Institute of International Studies of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

The Institute publishes the periodicals *Soudobé dějiny*, *Dějiny – teorie – kritika. History – Theory – Criticism*, co-published with Masaryk Institute – Archives ASCR), and several edition series, e.g., *Sešity ÚSD*, *Prameny k dějinám československé krize v letech 1967-1970* (Sources on the History of the Czechoslovak Crisis 1967-1970), *Prameny a studie k dějinám čs. exilu 1948-1989* (Sources and Studies on the History of Czechoslovak Exiles 1948-1989), and others.

More detailed information about the organisational structure of the Institute and its research and specialised units can be found at the following URL:

<http://www.usd.cas.cz>