

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASCR 2009

### 9. Section of Humanities and Philology Sciences

The section was comprised of six workplaces whose research activities focused on numerous research topics. The Humanities-oriented workplaces dealt with the issues of philosophy, ethnology, language and literature. Within the research in the area of philosophy, also selected issues of related disciplines were resolved, in particular logic, theory of science, classical and mediaeval studies. Components of the resolution of these issues also included research of the resources and traditions of European thought. In the area of political and moral philosophy, the research endeavour concentrated specifically on the philosophical aspects of democracy and the plurality of cultures. In the field of ethnology and social anthropology, the research focused on the topics of migrations, minorities and socially-excluded communities in the Czech Republic, on research of Czechs abroad and selectively also non-European ethnology. Czech Oriental Studies dealt with the research of the history, cultures, languages and religions of countries in Asia and Africa. Linguistics and literary science had their focus in Czech and Slavic research and its applications (e.g. research of the Czech lexis, research of Czech literature and other Slavic literatures including their positions in the European context). In addition, research of Czech book culture from the sixteenth century to the present continued. A substantial part of the activities of the fields of the humanities was the publication of scientific journals, critical editions, encyclopaedias, lexicographic and musical works focused on making the national cultural heritage accessible and also creating electronic data and information sources for the needs of the public.

From the results from 2009, we present:

#### Homeland (sic) Attitudes to Czechs Living Abroad in Modern History (1918–2008)

*(Institute of Ethnology)*

The book provides a synoptic recapitulation of the domestic attitudes towards emigration and towards Czechs living abroad. It builds on a detailed analysis of the emigration policy of interwar Czechoslovakia, identifies the political simplification in 1948–1989 and offers an overview of the domestic endeavours to bring the domestic and compatriot worlds together after November 1989.

*Brouček, S. – Grulich, T.: Domáci postoje k zahraničním Čechům. Public History in cooperation with the Institute of Ethnology of the ASCR, v. v. i., Praha 2009. 231 pp.*



The cover of the book by Brouček, S. – Grulich, T.: Homeland Attitudes to Czechs Living Abroad (Photo: Archives of the Institute of Ethnology)

## SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

### **From Language to Logic** (*Institute of Philosophy*)

The book endeavours to answer the question of what the nature of logic is. It strives to find the roots of logic in natural language and in real human argumentation. It shows that the path leading from common language and argumentation to logical symbolism and to artificial languages employed by modern logic is far from straightforward. The examination of how the artificial languages of modern logic and the logical calculi derived from them function undoubtedly paves the ways to more sophisticated expression and especially a better understanding of our argumentational practices, but these languages definitely cannot be seen as a kind of higher stage of natural language. In the book, the foundations of so-called classical logic as well as the main versions of its non-classical alternatives are systematically examined. Attention is paid also to problems of the logical modelling of the meanings of natural language expressions, to logical paradoxes or to the question of where the limits for the application of the methods of logical modelling are.

*Svoboda, V. – Peregrin, J.: Od jazyka k logice. Filozofický úvod do moderní logiky. Academia, Praha 2009. 428 pp.*



The cover of the book **From Language to Logic**  
Photo: Archives of the Institute of Philosophy)

### **The Přemyslids: Building the Bohemian State.** **A Historical Synthesis**

(*Institute of Philosophy – Centre for Medieval Studies*)

The collective monograph, which was created under the methodological guidance of the foremost experts, gathers texts by thirty-five authors which complement each other. It focuses on the emergence of the early mediaeval Czech state and its culture, the Christianisation of society and its cultural and political contacts within Central Europe. This main theme is approached from the perspectives of a broad spectrum of mediaevalist disciplines, particularly history, archaeology, art history, ethnology, iconology and linguistics.

Cooperating entity: *Institute of Archaeology, Prague.*  
*Sommer, P. – Třeštk, D. – Žemlička J. et al.: Přemyslovci, budování českého státu. Nakladatelství Lidové noviny, Praha 2009. 497 pp.*



The cover of the book **The Přemyslids: Building the Bohemian State**  
(Photo: Archives of the Institute of Philosophy)

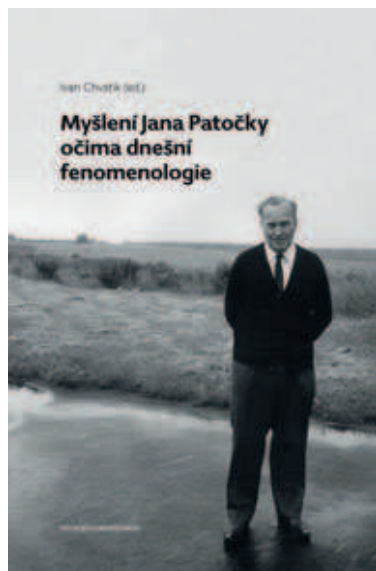
## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASCR 2009

### **The Thinking of Jan Patočka in the Eyes of Today's Phenomenology**

*(Institute of Philosophy – Centre for Theoretical Studies)*

The collective monograph comprising the articles of the world's leading experts on Jan Patočka presents a synoptic overview of his philosophy and can serve as a compendium for everyone who seriously wants to study his contribution to phenomenology.

*Chvatík, I. (ed): Myšlení Jana Patočky očima dnešní fenomenologie. Filosofía, Oikúmené, Praha 2009. 560 pp.*



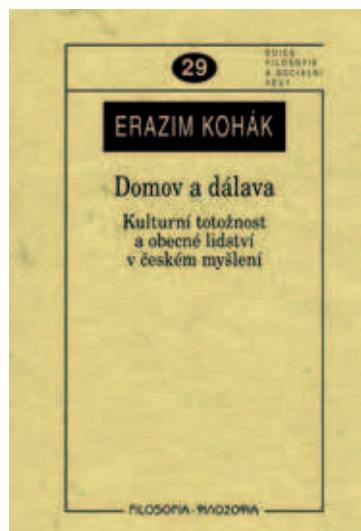
**The cover of the book The Thinking of Jan Patočka in the Eyes of Today's Phenomenology**  
(Photo: Archives of the Institute of Philosophy)

### **Hearth and Horizon. Cultural Identity and Global Humanity in Czech Philosophy**

*(Institute of Philosophy – Centre for Global Studies)*

The book summarises the author's lifelong consideration on the Czech cultural identity. It formulates two basic questions: What does it mean to be Czech? and What is the meaning of this question? The book follows the development of the Czech thought from the national revival in the nineteenth century until today on the background of Czech history with a particular focus on T. G. Masaryk, Emanuel Rádl, Jan Patočka and Karel Kosík.

*Kohák, E.: Domov a dálava: Kulturní totožnost a obecné lidství v českém myšlení. Filosofía, Praha 2009. 370 pp.*



**The cover of the book Hearth and Horizon. Cultural Identity and Global Humanity in Czech Philosophy**  
(Photo: Archives of the Institute of Philosophy)

## SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

### The 'East-West' Issues in European Cultures and Literatures

*(Institute of Slavonic Studies)*

The collective thirty-chapter monograph, the work of authors from the Czech Republic as well as other European countries (Germany, Austria, Hungary, Russia, Ukraine, Poland and Slovakia), treats from the topical literary-cultural Slavonic-studies discourse the transformations of the concept of 'East-West' on the model of mutual Slavic/non-Slavic (primarily Russian-German) literary and cultural relations. The book is divided into individual sections in which the 'East-West' issue is treated from the standpoints of theoretical methodology, the history of culture, from comparative and receptive perspectives as well as in terms of philosophical reflections within literary works.

Cooperating entities: Neisse Verlag Dresden, Detlef Krell  
*Ulbrecht, S. – Ulbrechtová, H. (Hrsg.): Die Ost-West-Problematik in den europäischen Kulturen und Literaturen. Ausgewählte Aspekte. Problematika Východ – Západ v evropských kulturách a literaturách. Vybrané aspekty. Slavonic Institute of the ASCR / Neisse Verlag, Praha / Dresden 2009. 800 pp.*



The cover of the book *Die Ost-West-Problematik in den europäischen Kulturen und Literaturen* [The 'East-West' Issues in European Cultures and Literatures] (Photo: Archives of the Institute of Slavonic Studies)

### The Machinists of Human Souls.

#### People's Libraries and their Censorship in the Early 1950s

*(Institute of Czech Literature)*

The book maps the attempt to control, transform radically and utilise for political power purposes the public libraries which occurred in Czechoslovakia under Stalinism. The introductory explanation captures the main form of the subsequent censorship in Communist Czechoslovakia: it describes the censorship of the people's libraries, deals with what kinds of literature were removed from libraries and seeks the reasons of this ban. The next section then follows the attempts of the librarians to influence or control the contemporary readership and thus educate a new reader. The title paraphrase of Stalin's statement on writers, the engineers of human souls, wants to define based on the period metaphor of cultural work as industrial production the sense of the censorship activities and of the entire reform of libraries and librarianship. With the help of the tools selected – the books produced by the engineers-writers, the librarians were to process the human material and mould it to the form of the new socialist man of the future.

*Šámal, P.: Soustružníci lidských duší: Lidové knihovny a jejich cenzura na počátku padesátých let 20. století. Academia, Praha 2009. 613 pp.*



The cover of the book *The Machinists of Human Souls. People's Libraries and their Censorship in the Early 1950s* (Photo: Archives of the Institute for Czech Literature)

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASCR 2009

### Creation of a Lexical Database of the Czech Language of the Beginning of the 21st Century

*(Institute of the Czech Language)*

The building of the lexical database Pralex according to the types of processed units, namely with one-word units – nouns (12,000 lemmas) are being treated, basic treatment of pronouns (160), numerals (662) and interjections (1,551) has been completed; with multi-word units – phrasemes (9,000 lemmas entered and interlinked) and similes (1,300 lemmas entered, 380 lemmas treated) are being treated. The processing of abbreviations/symbols (470) continues; the Pralex lexicon is gradually being supplemented (ca 120,000 data entries). The continuous programme development of the Praled lexicographical work station is being performed. The web application Lexiko was made available for the wider public (<http://lexiko.ujc.cas.cz>).

### Other important results:

1. Leoš Janáček. Folkloric Studies (1886–1927)  
*(Institute of Ethnology)*
2. Searching for Authenticity: Dvořák's Moravian Duets and the History of their Publication  
*(Institute of Ethnology)*
3. The Concept of General Theory of Action after Parsons  
*(Institute of Philosophy – Centre for Science, Technology, and Society Studies)*
4. On Egypt, Arabia, Palestine and Galilee  
*(Institute of Philosophy – Institute for Classical Studies)*
5. Universalism in Ethics as a Problem  
*(Institute of Philosophy – Centre of Global Studies)*
6. Prophets, their words and their world  
*(Institute of Philosophy – Institute for Classical Studies)*
7. Innovative Cultures: The Challenge and Strategy of Learning  
*(Institute of Philosophy – Centre for Science, Technology, and Society Studies)*
8. Transformations of the Historiography of Science  
*(Institute of Philosophy)*
9. Concise Encyclopaedia of Islam and Muslim Society  
*(Oriental Institute)*
10. Bhutan: A Brief History of the States  
*(Oriental Institute)*
11. Greek–Old-Church-Slavonic Index  
*(Institute of Slavonic Studies)*
12. Russian poetry in the second half of the twentieth century  
*(Institute of Slavonic Studies)*
13. Czech Historiography in Dialogue with Europe (1890–1914)  
*(Institute of Czech Literature)*
14. Dictionary of Czech Literature after 1945 Online  
*(Institute of Czech Literature)*
15. Electronic Dictionary of Old Czech  
*(Institute of the Czech Language)*
16. Internet Language Handbook and Language Consultancy  
*(Institute of the Czech Language)*