

THE PARTY POLITICAL STRUCTURE OF THE
MINORITIES AND THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL
IDEAS FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL
QUESTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA (1918—1970)

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The programs of the Sudeten German parties in 1919 ignored the foundation of the Czechoslovak state. But soon the Bund der Landwirte, the German Christian Socialparty and the Social Democrats began to rethink their attitude to the new state. The Sudeten German parties split into separate activist and negativist camps, the one affirming the Czechoslovak state and the other negating it. The parliamen-

tary elections of 1925 were a success for the first group and a defeat for the second. In 1926, two Sudeten German parties entered the government.

The organization of the Magyar minority into political parties took place only after the foundation of the Czechoslovak state. The oppositional Christian Social-party and the Magyar Party of Agriculturalists and Smallholders did not pursue any policy of their own, but were totally dependent on the Hungarian government. After the establishment of the CPCS, this party achieved the strongest position in areas with a Magyar majority. Only the Magyar sections of the Czechoslovak Social Democrats and of the Agrarians followed an activist policy. The Polish and Jewish minorities had political parties of their own, but they did not play any more significant role.