

THE "TEMNO" IN A CENTRAL EUROPEAN CONTEXT: ECCLESIASTICAL AND EDUCATIONAL POLITICS IN BAROQUE BOHEMIA

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In this article, one of the most widely known Czech historians of the postwar generation draws a new picture of the baroque epoch in Bohemia, which replaces the well-known clichés of what is usually called the *temno* age. Most markedly a departure from previous concepts is evident in her efforts to place developments in Bohemia in the context of their European and, above all, central European connections. It is from here that she arrives at the conclusion that "recatholicization . . . had nothing to do with Germanization". The author criticizes many myths about the *temno* age that have hitherto been current not only among the Czech public, but also in textbooks and in the mass media. She also offers many hints at how she came to realize those things that triggered her personal "demystification" of the *temno* age.