

THE BROADCAST TALK BY HISTORIAN HANS JOACHIM
BEYER IN PRAGUE IN 1942 EDITED COMPLETE WITH
COMMENTARY

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The present article examines the ideological context of university and science politics during the National Socialist rule with regard to the German (Charles) University of Prague. It is based on presenting a verbatim edition of a talk broadcast on August 12, 1942 on German-language Radio Prague, in which historian and university teacher Hans Joachim Beyer talked about the creation of the Reinhard Heydrich foundation. The text is a unique proof of how science was presented to a broad public. Ample reference is made to the large degree of politicisation of science, seen as a manifestation of modernity. However, the interview evoked critical reactions among Prague academics, which seems to suggest that tensions existed between competing scholars. University under National Socialist rule emerges as a framework for conflict among groups of highly divergent ideological conviction.