

3.4 Au milieu des changements géopolitiques européens après les conflits de guerre au XX^e siècle et leur contexte par rapport aux entreprises franco-tchèques

Skřivan, Aleš et Burianová, Tereza (Prague University of Economics and Business) : *Nationalization of the Czechoslovak arms industry after the Second World War*, (en anglais).

This paper deals with the nationalization of the arms industry in Czechoslovakia after the end of the Second World War and illustrates the effects of nationalization and the introduction of economic planning. The paper focuses mainly on the Škoda Works, which was the largest arms producer in interwar Czechoslovakia and later in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. After the end of the war, national administration was imposed on all the enterprises in this sector. By presidential decree, all of them were nationalized in 1945 without exception, thus coming under full state control. Gradually, also based on the two-year plan, the production programs of the individual enterprises were significantly restructured with arms production being reduced or even discontinued. The reduction or cessation of large-scale armaments programs also had a significant impact on the Škoda Works, which were only completing the arms orders in progress and were now devoting themselves exclusively to engineering. Arms production was moved from Plzeň (Pilsen) to Slovak plants. This process ended the era when the Škoda Works was the largest arms factory in the country and a major exporter of weapons to the whole world.