

# The Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia



In 1989, on the first day of the revolution, a peaceful student demonstration began in Prague as a protest against totalitarian Communist regime. The student protest began peacefully and ended with violence on Narodní Street, when riot police blocked off the escape routes and beat severely students. That first domino began an avalanche. Afterwards almost every day brought more protests with more people participating until the end of December.



On December 10, the Communist president Gustav Husák appointed the first mainly non-communist government in Czechoslovakia and resigned.

On December 28, the Communist parliament paradoxically elected Václav Havel, the first president of free Czechoslovakia. The students and other people ended their strike and the Velvet Revolution was finished.