



National History Day Research Guide

Topic: The Velvet Revolution: Standing Against Communist Rule in Czechoslovakia

Contact the Reference Services department for help with your research project:

- Phone us, 720-865-1363,
- Visit us, reference desk on Floor 3 of the [Central Library](#),
- Chat with us online with the [Ask Us!](#) Service,
- Meet with us in person or online to work [one-on-one with a librarian](#).

Getting Started

Begin your research by brainstorming keywords - the words and phrases you'll use to search for books, articles, websites, government documents, and other resources. These may include names of people and places or historical concepts like eras and movements. A librarian can suggest "subject headings" to find the most relevant resources.

Example Keywords & Subject Headings

Velvet Revolution
Gentle Revolution
Public Against Violence (VPN)
Civic Forum

[Havel, Václav](#)
[Czechoslovakia -- Politics and government -- 1989-1992](#)

Primary & Secondary Sources

Start your search at [the library catalog](#). You will need to use both [primary](#) and secondary sources for your project. You can often find both in the library catalog and place holds on materials, if needed.

Books/Print Resources at DPL

Hope dies last : the autobiography of Alexander Dubcek
<http://catalog.denverlibrary.org/view.aspx?cn=231336>
A velvet revolution : Václav Havel and the fall of communism
<http://catalog.denverlibrary.org/view.aspx?cn=636438>
Vaclav Havel and the Velvet Revolution
<http://catalog.denverlibrary.org/view.aspx?cn=241743>

To the Castle and back (primary source)

<http://catalog.denverlibrary.org/view.aspx?cn=668278>

Database/Online Resources

Library databases are online collections of information, organized for research. Databases contain articles, eBooks, images, maps, primary sources and more. If you don't have a library card, [register online](#) for immediate access to these resources. The following recommended databases are available on our [Research](#) and [Teen Social Studies](#) pages.

Gale Virtual Reference Library Access full-text encyclopedias covering the arts, biography, country studies, history, law, literature, religion, science, social science and more.

Velvet Revolutions: Were the "Velvet Revolutions" of 1989 in Eastern Europe the Result of Soviet Weakness? <http://bit.ly/2gBoXOr>

New York Times Historical Backfile on ProQuest Contains full-text and images in PDF format of the New York Times from 1851 to three years before current year.

Czech Playwright Freed From Prison: Vaclav Havel, Released After 4 Months, Vows to Go On Calling for Changes. <http://bit.ly/2gMc7jQ> (Requires library card.)

World History in Context From the ancient world to today's headlines. A chronicle of the great cultures and societies that have formed the history of the human race. Rare primary sources, reliable reference and multimedia content put this vast topic into context.

The Velvet Revolution. <http://bit.ly/2hxALDK>

Searching beyond Denver Public Library

As a Denver Public Library customer, you can also [borrow materials from other library systems](#). If DPL doesn't have something you need, search Prospector to check other Colorado libraries' catalogs.

Revolution with a human face : politics, culture, and community in Czechoslovakia, 1989-1992

http://encore.coalliance.org/iii/encore/record/C__Rb31415171__Svelvet%20revolution%20czechoslovakia_P0%2C16__Orightresult__U__X1?lang=eng&suite=def

The velvet revolution : Czechoslovakia, 1988-1991

http://encore.coalliance.org/iii/encore/record/C__Rb11492009__Svelvet%20revolution%20czechoslovakia__Orightresult__U__X4?lang=eng&suite=def

Internet Sources

Before using information you find on the internet for assignments and research, it is important to establish that the information comes from a reliable and appropriate source. The following websites, from government, academic and nonprofit organizations, have been evaluated for authority, accuracy, content and currency.

The Declaration of the Civic Forum by Representative Vaclav Havel on Wenceslas Square (primary source)

<https://chnm.gmu.edu/1989/items/show/509>

source)

The Velvet Revolution Declassified: US State Department cables from Prague 1989 (primary
<http://nsarchive.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB141/>

The Velvet Revolution in the City of Prague Museum's posters

<http://en.muzeumprahy.cz/the-velvet-revolution-in-the-city-of-prague-museum-s-posters/>