SSUNS Czechoslovakia 1990

Position Paper

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**Position Paper**

The delegation of Czechoslovakia has been struck with the fall of communism, and now the new divide between the Czechs and Slovaks. As many want a new change and are unhappy with the current system, others are facing a cultural shock due to this new forming of government. As Jan Carnogursky, deputy Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia from 1989-1990 it is crucial that Czechoslovakia joins the notion in becoming anti-communist and moves towards have a democracy system in place.

1. **Topic 1: Fall of Communism in Eastern Europe and Czechoslovakia**

Regional Instability is a major issue Czechoslovakia is facing. Poland, and Germany have both become anti-communist countries and moving towards have a democracy. Many countries, including Hungary, now want to follow this new system of government making the decision for Czechoslovakia to become anti-communist difficult. Czechoslovakia is located in the heart of Europe with neighboring countries being Germany, Poland, Ukraine, Romania, Hungary, and Austria. Due to the rapid movement of now majority of these countries becoming anti-communist the delegation of Czechoslovakia is now facing the decision whether or not to join this new system of government.

It is vital that Czechoslovakia joins the anti-communist countries, to ensure they are moving towards having an equal country. As Primer Minister and a religious man, who attended a secret church and loved his religion the ability to practice it freely without being in hiding was a key factor in wanting this change. With the rules of communism there is no religion to be practiced, as the restriction were difficult for many to follow the Mr. Carnogursky believed that the times have changed and this system of government should be uplifted.

As many were in favor of this decision and felt the “fever for freedom” the collapse of communism began on December 29th 1989, the same day as the new Prime Minister was elected. Six weeks from then the new Czechoslovakia had left communism and allowed the transition to a democracy happen relatively quickly. During this time period to which it was referred to as the “velvet revolution” due to the act of moving towards a democracy system government was done peacefully and without any violence.

Many different factors affected the decision whether to change the communist government system that had been in placed for 41 years. The ideologies involved were mainly political factors. With Czechoslovakia being located in the heart of Europe many neighboring countries such as Germany and Poland that had begun the process of becoming a democracy increased the influence on Czechoslovakia to leave communism. As well with this new movement, Czechoslovakia wanted to transition due to all the benefits and freedoms that were given with this new democracy government system.

1. **Topic 2: Czechoslovakia in the Cold War**

Although this move of leaving communism looked good for Czechoslovakia, many issues are occurring within the country, especially during the Cold War. Due to the divide between the Czechs and Slovaks and the different priorities made it difficult for them to come to an agreement.

Since the Slovaks felt overpowered by Czechs and had less Slovak citizens they were wanting to establish a sense of independence and started to want to become its own country and separate from the Czechs; whereas the Czechs were looking towards Economic Reforms and less concerned over their identity since they had almost triple the amount of people. Within the one country 6.6 million were Czechs, 3.1 million were Sudeten Germans and 2.2 were Slovaks. This separation of values put pressure and created various opinions on what was important to establish within the country.

During the Cold War alternate issues also began, within the fall of communism in Czechoslovakia multiple social changes has occurred. Due to the collapse of the government in February of 1948 this created political crossroads. As a developing, newfound country siding with two major countries that are going to war would not be a wise decision. Instead, the main focus of Czechoslovakia should solely be the development of this country. As there are multiple internal issues, the main focus she firstly begins to fix them before working on relations between other countries. Although the discussion of communism is important the focus currently should be fixing the current issue of the divide between the Czechs and Slovaks should be the main issue.

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