

---

# The Communist Party in Power

A Profile of Party Politics  
in Czechoslovakia

---

Karel Kaplan

Edited and translated by  
Fred Eidlin

Westview Press / Boulder and London

# Contents

<i>List of Tables and Figures</i>	ix
<i>Preface</i>	xi
Introduction, <i>Fred Eidlin</i>	1
1 Institutions Without Power	9
Members, 9	
The Supreme Authorities—Democratic Facade, 13	
Broadly Elected Authorities: Auxiliary Aktiv of the Powerholding Groups, 22	
Auxiliary Structures and the System of Control, 35	
Notes, 36	
2 The System of Power Groups	38
The Backbone of Power, 38	
The Lower-level (Basic) Power Groups, 41	
District and Regional Groups, 46	
Presidium of the Central Committee, 54	
The Central Committee Secretariat and Its Secretaries, 86	
The General Secretary, 95	
Notes, 101	
3 The Party Apparatus	113
The Role of the Party Apparatus, 113	
The Party Apparatus in the Districts and Regions, 124	
The Central Party Apparatus, 129	
Substance and Methods of Work, 139	
Party Management, 166	
The Party Apparatus in the Armed Forces, 172	
Notes, 177	

4	The Party Aktiv	180
	What Is the Aktiv? 180	
	Work with the Aktiv, 184	
	Summary, 195	
	Notes, 197	
5	External Influences	198
	Instead of a Conclusion	208
	<i>Appendixes</i>	213
	<i>About the Editor</i>	221
	<i>Index</i>	223