

# 67.

Filozofická fakulta Univerzity Karlovy

## LETNÍ ŠKOLA SLOVANSKÝCH STUDIÍ V PRAZE



### Monday 5. August

### Historical tour

19.30 departure Masarykova dormitory

20.00 departure from the faculty

On this history tour, we will aim to dig a little deeper into the social, political, and religious forces which have moulded Prague. With a focus on locations around the historic New Town, we will explore the peculiar Czech preference for window-throwing. How did window-throwing become a repeated incident here? What was the reason for such behaviour in the first place? Also, how did Prague become a hotbed in the 1500s for alchemical study, and proto-scientific discoveries? How did the religious tensions here in Bohemia trigger one of the deadliest European wars ever? Then, in the twentieth century, how did the assassins of Heydrich plan their dangerous mission, almost fail, and then eventually triumph? And how did Václav Havel go from being an absurdist playwright to one of the most-beloved presidents in Czech history? Once again told with plenty of passion, anecdotes, and dark humour, we hope to show you far more history than the famous bridges and clocks.

#### Fergus Menendez

Fergus is a Masters student of literature at the Philosophical Faculty, Charles University, formerly a student of Literature & History at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. When he is not studying, then he has also worked as an English teacher and in a couple of independent bookshops. His interest in Czech history was first activated during an exchange to the Czech Republic when he was 17, and now he is very excited to be living, studying, and working in Prague!

