

ABSTRACT

The Historical Czech-German Linguistic Border's Impact on the Geographical Organization of Czech Society

The study deals with the example of historical border, Czech-German linguistic border and search if the relict borders are able to impact an organization of society. The aim of the study is to analyze by virtue of which parameters Czech-German linguistic border is evident today. We expect that the territories lying on one side of the linguistic border resemble each other and as a whole they are different from the ones on the other side.

In first part of the study we discuss main theories and references and we explain the used terms. There is the search of the linguistic border's influence in second part of the study. The analysis of its influence is based on fourteen settlement and population indicators for the level of "districts of municipality with extended agency", using statistical data analysis (hierarchical cluster analysis and principal components analysis). Then we choose four microregions with different location against the linguistic border and compare their cultural dissimilarities. In the chosen microregions there were conducted two forms of data collection: an observation and a public inquiry. We use data from the public inquiries which were conducted as a part of the former grant projects.

Following acquired findings we can argue that the former German linguistic territory and Czech inland still vary in their cultural aspects. According to this statement we can find Czech borderland resettled after 1945 as a "cultural periphery" of Czechia. Recent inhabitants of resettled borderland have lower regional consciousness and not so long continuity in traditions and perception of symbols. The monitoring of further cultural development of these areas should promote to better understanding to the process of forming regional consciousness and regional identity.

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Key words:

Czech-German linguistic border – historical border – culture – border region – core-periphery model – regional identity – statistical analysis