

Abstract:

The bachelor thesis scrutinizes various strategies of German associations in České Budějovice and their effect on the local German population in the process of forming German identity. It draws its attention to turning points in urban and associational history, i.e. the early 1860s marking the split up of *Liedertafel* into two national entities, 1872 as the opening of the German House, further, the year the new mayor Josef Taschek came into office, and the beginning of the First World War. It attempts to interpret the mechanisms through which the associations were forming the identity, as a symbolic civil war of meanings. In connection to that, it examines whether those associations developed any kind of political activities or not. In addition, it suggests possible link between local policy and associational life. It focuses on drawing a trajectory of identity development from utraquism to Germanness and frames it in the larger sociopolitical context. Moreover, it concentrates on the position changes of Germans and the interdependence between the urban and rural space.

Key words:

identity, associational life, memory, local patriotism, Budweiser Germans, České Budějovice, language policy, associational policy