

## **Abstract**

The following bachelor thesis aims to spread not only current theoretical, but especially empirical, knowledge about the role of local development actors in a different socio-economic state of municipalities located on the border peripheries of Czechia. The initial concept of assessment of all findings is the so-called “institutional thickness”. The primary data analysed in this paper were obtained from 24 semi-structured interviews with mayors of local municipal councils.

The main goal of this research is to understand and clarify, based on the analysis of semi-structured interviews, the density of social interactions in local development of municipalities. Since the interviews cover the entire Cheb county area, it was possible not only to evaluate partial social interactions, but also to compare those interactions within the whole area of the county (e.g. between smaller administrative units and others spatial entities). Conclusions of this thesis were also compared with other similar work done on the inner periphery of eastern Czechia between 2016 and 2017.

The most important results are a confirmation of the key role of mayors in a local development, the active approach of local governance to participating in microregional unions is also very significant. The internal differentiation of development opportunities is determined by the quality of horizontal and vertical cooperation as well. The cooperation of municipalities with upper administrative units is depended more on social and organizational proximity than geographical proximity.