

This diploma thesis, which is focused on Hungary's minority policy after 1990 and self-government of the German national minority, is divided into four main parts.

In the first part of the thesis (Chapters I-III) I discuss the theoretic background regarding the terms "minority" and "minority policy" and furthermore the demographic development in the territory of the Republic of Hungary. The changes within the population as a whole and the nationality structure have been reflected here since 1945. This period could be considered as a milestone in the future development of the German minority in Hungary.

In the second part of the thesis (Chapter IV) I deal with specific aspects of the Hungarian minority policy covering the period 1900 - 1989. The reason for that is the effort to put the historical events, directly affecting the political conception for minority protection or persecution of a given minority, in relation with current situation. Following three periods are in focus: period after the Austro-Hungarian Compromise, Post-Trianon Hungary and period of communist dictatorship. Especially during the last phase, the constant assimilation process of "national" minorities has been rapidly accelerated.

In the third part (Chapters V-VII) I show in detail the development of the Hungarian minority politics in the 1990's and I focus on the current situation, as well. I am concerned with the "double standard" politics of minority protection, constitutive and legislative adjustments and their real influence de jure and de praxis. The minority self-government system is in-depth analysed together with accompanying phenomenon, so-called ethnobusiness. There is also discussed the issue concerning the minority representation in parliament.

The fourth part (Chapter VIII) is focused on analysing the current situation of the German minority self-government, its prospects and "double identity" problem. The analysis is based on the results from the field research