

Annotation

The submitted thesis "Reteritorialization of the Austrian-Slovenian-Croatian border as a causal impact of the European integration process" analytically approaches the issue of the reterritorialization process within the state-centric, still valid Westphalian system. The topic of reterritorialization is important especially in the context of considering the spatial or territorial impacts of ongoing European integration. This integration can take the form of establishing so called Euroregions or cross-border cooperation. The territorial framework was chosen on the basis that Slovenia is one of the most typical border and contact social areas in Europe. This assumption was subsequently linked to the time perspective, when the above-mentioned three states joined the European Union at almost the same interval. Appropriate choice of territory and time framework in the work is the basis for the analysis of the impacts of the phenomenon of reterritorialization. The analytical part of the work is organized as a discursive analysis of texts whose authors are researchers from the university environment. As members of academia often have a direct impact on the local implementation of cohesion policy, the analysis is complemented with the interpretation of the results of thematic structured interviews. These interviews were conducted with competent representatives of local public administration units. This work thus represents an alternative to quantitative analyses of research related to the impacts of the European integration process. In the presented thesis, its author concludes that from a discursive point of view, reterritorialization in the analyzed texts is reflected mainly in the creation of cross-border identity, either in the current course of time (the case of Slovene-Croatian cross-border area) or as a goal for the future (the Austrian-Slovene cross-border area). This largely common discourse is in principle recorded in academic texts concerning only the Austrian-Slovenian border area.

Key words

Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, European integration, cross-border regions, cross-border cooperation, reterritorialization, boundaries, territory, critical discourse analysis