

The object of our dissertation is to explore and specify the particular role that beer plays in the Czech culture. It also addresses its historical, social, cultural, and local development. We aimed to examine the function of beer and its cultural configuration; its setting and significance in cultural and social system; and its influence on behavior and experience of individuals.

Furthermore, we have focused on both cultural;historical transformation of beer consumption on the Czech historical territory and drinking public spaces – pubs – as active cultural and social institutions. We regard pubs as places where pro;social and reciprocal behavior is accepted and active social interactions are expected to happen. Moreover, we are concerned with claim that roots of Czech national enlightenment lay in rural environment of village inns where Czech language was still widely spoken and preserved. In addition, we describe and assess a development of the brewing industry and related institutions; the status of so;called “barfly” as a particular social and cultural category. Last but not least we mention the gender problematic. In past, it was highly socially inadmissible for women to enter the pub without being accompanied by male counterpart. Therefore, we focused on this matter using heuristic and compilatory analysis of cultural and historical development of given problematic. As for the basic points of our analysis, we have targeted several areas ; development and transformation of beer and pub in the context of European alimentary system and all;society changes; the role of pub in its local environment, origin and development of brewery, the phenomenon of “barfly” and pub socializing; and shortly we mentioned the problematic of gender roles and pubs as public space.