Abstract

The presented dissertation deals with the perception and methods of management of the mining heritage from the perspective of individual stakeholders, entities and interest groups involved in the process of its creation, inventory, interpretation, use, protection or reconstruction. At the same time, it discusses the ways of using the mining heritage, the benefits and risks of its presence in the territory or its connection to territorial identities. The general starting points of the research are based on a search and critical discussion of scientific literature and key geographical concepts (heritage, place, identity).

In the first part, the thesis deals with the conceptualization of heritage in general, discussing various ways of defining and looking at heritage, its characteristics and properties, and also it discusses possible approaches to it. The thesis also brings different perspectives on classification of heritage and analysis of its individual phases, as the heritage is seen as a socio-cultural process conditioned by individual actors, entities and interest groups who enter and influence it at various stages. The thesis also deals with the ways heritage shapes and affects the environment in which it is located, including its inhabitants and visitors. After a general discussion, the thesis focuses on a specific group of heritage, which is mining heritage. Mining heritage can be included in the industrial heritage, i.e., heritage linked to a certain industrial activity, namely the extraction of minerals. Within the study of mining heritage, the ways of its origin, the role of individual actors in the process of existence are addressed, the influences on the economy, tourism or the possibilities of its protection and preservation are also evaluated. The following part contains a presentation of the area of interest of the Jáchymov region, which was chosen because it is a part of the Ore Mountains, an area characterized by a long mining history and a number of preserved mining monuments. However, it is important mainly because it is a part of the world heritage as the Mining Cultural Landscape of the Ore Mountains/Erzgebirge was inscribed on the UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2019.

The second part of the thesis is devoted to the field research in the Jáchymov region. First, the key actors involved in the process of creating and managing the mining heritage are identified, with whom research interviews were conducted in the period between 2017 and 2020 (a total of more than 150 interviews). The aim of the research was to find out how the mining heritage in the Jáchymov region is treated, how and for what purposes it is used, what are the roles of individual actors and whether there are, for example, conflicts or conflicts of visions between them. Representatives of the public, private and non-profit

sectors from the local, regional, and national levels, as well as local residents, were involved in the research.

The research represents a comprehensive overview of the process of formation and management of a specific form of cultural heritage. The period just before and after the inscription of the Jáchymov mining heritage on the UNESCO's World Heritage List was recorded, which affected two very fundamental stages of its development. From the point of view of geography, this is a sporadically solved topic. Therefore the thesis contributes to both the shift in the view of heritage and individual actors in general, it affects specific phases of (not only) the protection of the heritage of Jáchymovsko, which are followed by other partial steps in its management. Thus, it can be stated that the research has filled an empty space in the geographical knowledge of the study of heritage and thus the thesis can be perceived as the first comprehensive text providing insight into the presented issues.

Keywords

new cultural geography, historical geography, heritage studies, mining heritage, UNESCO, sociocultural process, social construction, actors, Jáchymovsko, Krušnohoří / Erzgebirge, Czechia