

Title: Regional identity of the Ostrov region inhabitants

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## **Abstract**

The thesis is focused on the topic of regional identity of inhabitants. A discuss about literature mainly focusing on regional identity of inhabitants in context with the topic of polarization of territory will be found in the first part of the thesis. The Ostrov region, that is located in the territory of ORP Ostrov in the region of Karlovy Vary, was selected as a interesting area for the research of subjective sensation of the inhabited area. The major reason for the selection of this region was its location near the borders and its specific development in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The second part of the thesis are analyses of the potential of formalization of regional identity on the bases of objective dates. Differences of particular components of the current potential between two modeled areas, which within the area of interest were defined as Ostrov area and Jáchymov area, were observed. In the third part of the thesis there have been carried out analyses of regional identity of inhabitants of the area of interest based on a questionnaire. On the ground of this survey there was researched the rate of identification of the inhabitants with particular hierarchical level of the regions of both areas. The character of symbols of the area in minds of the inhabitants and their perception of identity of the region. Results of the research are showing a dominant identification of inhabitants with the Czech Republic thus with the national identity. National identity is then followed by the local one. The research also confirmed that inhabitants of the borderland generally perceive the natural elements as a symbol of their region.

**Key words:** regional identity of inhabitants, identity of the region, the potential of forming regional identity, frontier regions, regional geography