

This diploma thesis presents an attempt on a multi-disciplinary approach to the oldest period of Czech-Bavarian relations not from the point of view of political history but cultural history. The aim of the work excludes the analysis of all problems because material sources, unlike written sources which are available in primary issues, have still added up and which have not been mapped basically, or evaluated, so far. The text has a disposition of several research probes to written sources that are evaluated by existing subjective approaches; I make an analysis of their possibilities and limits. In the introductory chapter, I focus on the chronological problem limitation and the problems of the ethnic interpretation. The next part contains an overview of Czech-Bavarian contacts from the point of view of political history and specific hypotheses. The second chapter is dedicated to the problems of the Slavonic settlement of Northeastern Bavaria which has been marginalized by Czech research workers so far. In the third chapter, which is focused on chronological relations among early medieval burying grounds in Bohemia and in Northeastern Bavaria, I deal with local differences in dating of S-shaped rings and imply some solutions of this problem. The fourth part concentrates on the settlements on the Czech-Bavarian border on the basis of the chosen Cheb and Domažlice micro-regions from 8th to 11th centuries. The fifth chapter is focused on the life of a Frankish Duke Ernest (cca 800-865/866), a prominent courtier of the King of Bavaria Louis the German, a military leader and politician who most likely was the keeper of the Czech tribute. The Ernest's life story is interpreted in a light of conclusions obtained from the previous chapters. This work includes an alphabetical index of chosen archeological sites, close focusing on research problems.