

ABSTRACT

This thesis deals with the status of civil society in the Sudetenland. The issue of living in the borderlands is examined in the context of historical events and is related with political, cultural and social transformations. Theoretical work is focused both on defining the problem of the Sudetenland and the traditions of thought to grasp the concept of civil society on the basis of which is derived the current definition of civil society and its other prerequisites. The first part of the theoretical work maps the development of civil sector and the importance of community life in the context of Czech historical events, the second discusses the development of Czech-German coexistence with emphasis on the interwar and postwar events and development. The practical part, which carries a crucial part of field research, is based on interviews with local natives, new immigrants and cottagers. The work involves presentation of NGO's, which is operating in the locality as an important indicator of the state of civil society. Conclusion of the work presents the results of the analysis of interviews that have interpretive value of the current state of civil society in the Sudetenland.

Key words

Civil society, the Sudetenland, settlement, borderland, Czech-German coexistence, community activities