

Abstract (in English)

The presented diploma thesis analyzes German borderland novels (Grenzlandroman) of the interwar period, namely Robert Hohlbaum's *Grenzland* (1921), Rudolf Haas' *Heimat in Ketten* (1924), *Das Dorf an der Grenze* (1936) by Bruno Nowak, writing under the pseudonym Gottfried Rothacker, and *Die Brüder Tommahans* (1937) by Wilhelm Pleyer. As a literary genre, the borderland novel took conflict between nations as its central theme, while addressing contemporary or recent social evolution. German borderland novels from interwar Czechoslovakia give evidence of how not only the authors but also the whole social groups reflected societal changes in the aftermath of 1918. An analysis of the narratives typical of this segment of literature confirms its relevance to the formation of the German population's identity in interwar Czechoslovakia. Stereotyping mechanisms play a crucial role in instilling abstract notions of nationality in the everyday perception of ordinary people. The borderland novels' narrative practices contribute to the reconstruction and fixation of this stereotypical perception of reality. This perception not only affects the way individuals and social groups view their surroundings, but also interferes with the interpretation of events. Analysis of the selected texts enables us to examine how the collective memory of the Czechoslovak Germans was transformed. Particular attention is paid to the attempt to create a collective trauma based on events connected with the annexation of German-speaking areas to Czechoslovakia. The borderland novels also represent a medium through which national "defensive" strategies were popularized. In the economic sphere, they primarily promote the agrarian ideology of "blood and soil" (Blut und Boden). Part of this thesis also offers a comparison of Czech and German borderland novels, which should contribute to a deeper understanding of mutually negating stereotypes. An examination of the novels' reception and distribution, based on available sources, serves at least to partially explain to what extent the authors' efforts were successful in directing the reader towards certain points of view and patterns of behaviour and negotiation. In addition to textual analysis, the presented work includes concise profiles of the studied authors, which can help the reader to understand the social context of their attitudes and views. The biographical data connects the authors' opinions and ideologies with specific social structures and institutions.