

Abstract

The thesis is based on a long term ethnographic field research, that has been conducted by this work's author in one of the villages within the district of Svidník, Eastern-Slovakia. The work's fundamental frame of topic are the relations between the Roms and non-Roms in the observed village, with main focus put on the actor's perspective of the local Roms. The nature of such relations is observed both synchronously and diachronously, and foremost in respect of two types of an areal mobility, that at the same time has the potential of a social-economic mobility. The first observed type is the flow of the Roms from the romani village to a non-Roms part of the village, or the surrounding villages; the second is the cross-border migration. At the same time the thesis addresses the relations within the observed Romani community whose internal social differentiation is partially influenced by the very – successfully or unsuccessfully – implemented mobility. To hold a wider grip of the local relations, the author uses the texts of the Romani-studies expert, Milena Hübschmannová, other related case studies coming from the region of eastern Slovakia, and, paralelly, also the concepts of the postcolonial thinking with emphasis to Frantz Fanon's work. It is his very work that has provided the frame to address the power assymetry of the local relations between the Roms and non-Roms, as well as the internalization of an inferior status of Roms that accompanies such assymetry.

Keywords

Roms, romani settlements, eastern Slovakia, boundaries, mobility, migration, residential structure, interethnic relations, postcolonial thinking