

The thesis focuses on the current situation of the so-called North Central dialects of Romani in the Czech Republic. It summarizes the findings of a recent sociolinguistic research of the language situation of Romani carried out by the Seminar of Romani Studies (Charles University, Faculty of Arts) in 2007-2009. The thesis adds some new analyses and interpretations of the collected data and achieved findings.

The opening parts of the thesis describe the historical context of post-war Czechoslovakia and its influences on the situation of the Romani language as depicted in historical, sociological, sociolinguistic and other studies. The following parts cover the methodology used in the recent sociolinguistic research on the competence in Romani in the young generation of Roma and analyse the data from the perspective of the limits of the methodology, and present some correlations relevant to the current situation of Romani. The results of the current sociolinguistic research reveal that in the youngest generation of Roma in the Czech Republic there is approximately one third of people with an active competence in Romani. In view of the changes that affected Roma and the Romani culture in post-war period especially in the Czech part of the former Czechoslovakia, this estimate seems to be surprisingly high. On the other hand, it confirms the assumption that within the Roma communities in the Czech Republic a shift from the former bi- or plurilingualism towards a monolingualism in Czech takes place.