

This study represents an analysis of contemporary theories examining new forms of partnership, in particular LAT (living apart together) and LDR (long-distance relationship). The author of the study is searching for reasons behind the increase of these forms of relationships, including less strict social norms and emphasis on individualism, but also the popularity of modern communication technologies, especially the internet. The specific features of cyberspace and CMC (computer mediated communication) are being considered, as they possibly facilitate the relationship initiation and maintenance via computers. Non-residential cohabitation is presented in this study as a progressively common alternative to more traditional forms of partner cohabitation.