

The thesis deals with the historical development of cross-border cooperation in the Euroregion Šumava which is the Czech part of the Czech-German and the Czech-Austrian border defined as Euroregion Šumava/ Bayerischer Wald - Unterer Inn/ Mühlviertel. The main objective is to find out how joint cross-border cooperation has changed from the initial idea of joint cross-border cooperation through the establishment of the Euroregion Šumava to the present. Another objective is to identify regional differences in the development of cross-border cooperation from the perspective of three model areas that have different scale levels. The overall aim is to identify changes in the evolution of cross-border cooperation and an attempt to explain the causes of possible variabilities. The thesis is based on quantitative research in the form of cross-border analysis of completed projects and qualitative research based on structured interviews with selected respondents. A prerequisite of this thesis is both the shift from cross-border cooperation "bottom up" to "top down" and the subsequent interconnection of both forms. It is further assumed considerable regional differentiation. Both assumptions were confirmed through mutual reporting periods as well as comparison of model municipalities.