

Abstract

The thesis discusses historical and legal aspects of the 1938 Sudeten populace displacement. It scopes over the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic in 1938 to delimitation of the term „Sudeten“ and focuses on populace movements in the Turnov area and the town of Turnov, which became the largest border town in the north Bohemia.

After a brief historical overview, the focus is given to social and legal shifts in the so-called Second Republic and the application of these new norms in a specific geographic region.

Minority rights and living conditions of Sudeten Germans in Czechoslovakia and later in Sudetengau are compared and contrasted with minority rights granted to Czechs in Germany after 1938. A particular attention is given to the attitudes of the government and locals towards the migrants from Sudeten fleeing from Nazi Germany. There is a description of refugee waves, concretization of groups that were leaving Sudeten regions.

The changes in the areas of employment, unemployment support, housing policy and charity are exposed in general and their later application illustrated by the case of Turnov and its surroundings.