

Abstract

The master thesis focuses on development problems of peripheral areas of Czech borderland on the example of Volarsko model region. Three goals were set. At first I tried to evaluate contemporary nature and range of space polarization at the level of administrative district with extended competences Prachatice. The second aim was to identify the main development problems of municipalities of Volarsko peripheral model region, and try to propose possibilities and perspectives to overcome defined problems. In the last one, the attention was paid to evaluation of importance of human capital, which was represented by main representatives of municipal self-government (mayors and members of local boards), in relation to local development of municipality.

Empirical part consists of four main chapters. After the geographical characterization of administrative district with extended competences Prachatice, core and peripheral municipalities (areas) were delimited at the level of forty-four municipalities using seven indicators and two different statistical methods ("giving points" and "synthetic index"). There is also effort to discuss usability of application these seven indicators. I continued with qualitative research in all municipalities of Volarsko peripheral region. I used the interview with mayors (7 respondents), and the short questionnaire for members of local boards (58 respondents). Finally, the empirical part presents my subjective comparison of results of applied quantitative and qualitative research with emphasis on municipalities of Volarsko model region. In case of four municipalities (Lenora, Stožec, Volary and Zbytiny) the evaluation was rather positive, the remaining municipalities (Křišťanov, Nová Pec and Želnavá) were evaluated negatively as a very peripheral municipalities with a bad conditions for future development. Among the biggest problems of Volarsko model region belong the tightness of money of all municipalities, lack of employment opportunities and unemployment, and the existence of National park Šumava as a barrier of further development.

With regard to observed facts, the next step was try to propose possibilities and perspectives which could lead to getting over the peripheral character or periphereness of Volarsko model region. The existence of National park Šumava influence very considerably (in negative way) possible economic development, because of its stretching almost to the whole of Volarsko model region. Nevertheless, we can expect that tourism become the most important factor forming the future development. Despite its potential and leading role, should not be considered the only way of further development. A diversity of economic activities is necessary (in agricultural and industrial sector too). From institutional point of view the integration of small municipalities on one hand, and more

intensive cooperation of all municipalities on other hand are the next important possible ways of future development of this territory.

Finally, I tried to do a brief but important outline focuses on generalization of master thesis results in the context of the similar and other types of peripheral regions across the whole of Czechia. I also turned back to preface to confront hypothesis with a reaching results.