

Abstract

The aim of this thesis was to inspect how Czech compatriots integrate in Germany, as the topic is still scientifically quite under-researched. The thesis consists of a combination of quantitative analysis which is supported by a theoretical framework regarding community formation and integration theories. The theoretical framework provides an overview over important assimilation theories such as the classic assimilation theory, the new assimilation theory and the segmented assimilation theory. It also discusses transnationalism and diaspora to highlight the multi-layered and complex nature of the topic. The quantitative analysis is based on data from six selected countries (N=669), but mainly uses data regarding Czech compatriots in Germany (N=115). This includes the impact of socioeconomic data, the country of residence, the respondents transnational characteristics and different integration dimensions on the integration process. The outcomes are compared to the Polish and Turkish minorities, two major foreign ethnic groups in Germany, which are heavily analyzed by scholars. To summarize, the thesis presents a well-integrated Czech compatriot group in Germany, while portraying strong transnational characteristics, an interaction worth monitoring in further integration research. Important aspects of all three assimilation theories are reflected in the thesis, as the respondents length of stay increases most integration dimensions as does the respondents social status. Also, an integration process without full assimilation is portrayed in the thesis.

Keywords:

Czech compatriots in Germany, Diaspora, Integration, Transnationalism