



MASARYKOVA UNIVERZITA
FAKULTA SOCIÁLNÍCH STUDIÍ
KATEDRA SOCIOLOGIE

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National and Regional Identity in Tyrol and Moravia (an international project supported by AKTION Czech Republic - Austria)

Final Project Report

The main objective of this research project was to provide a didactic space for sociology students who were interested in mapping the social and cultural forces which shape recent processes of national and regional identity formation in Moravia and Tyrol. Two research seminars were realized parallelly at the Masaryk University and the University of Innsbruck during the academic year 2010/2011. Beside these research seminar which were taught separately, another two intensive workshops were taking place. The first workshop was taking place in Innsbruck during the Autumn term in 2010, the second workshop was taking place in Brno during the Spring term in 2011. The project proved to be useful both for the students and the instructors, mainly because it enabled us to share experiences in all phases of the research process. What more it, provided an opportunity for students to make explicit and understand differences between various methodological approaches.

Activities during the Autumn Term 2010

(a) A regular course "SOC251/SOC556 National and Regional Identity: Research Seminar I." taught by Csaba Szaló, was taking place at the Department of Sociology, Masaryk University. This course was attended by 30 undergraduate and graduate students. This research seminar was focusing on the development of theoretical and methodological competences, which are important for drafting a research project dealing with regional and national identity formation. At the end of the term 16 group projects were finalized. There was a similar course "Forshungspraktikum 1" taught by Elisabeth Donat, taking place at the Department of Sociology, Innsbruck university.

(b) The first intensive methodological workshop was organized by Elisabeth Donat in Innsbruck 23.11.2010. From the Masaryk University there were 8 students participating (Apolonia Sejkova, Karin Hoření, Ela Klementová, Adam Fialík, Petr Doležal, Jitka Sklenářová, Michal Šindelář, Petr Vašek) all of them were presenting their particular project. Csaba Szaló was participating with a lecture "Researching identities: a qualitative approach." The workshop generated a critical debate about the different possibilities of qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches in identity formation research.

Activities during the Spring Term 2011

(a) A regular course "SOC252/SOC557 National and Regional Identity: Research Seminar II." taught by Csaba Szaló, was taking place at the Department of Sociology, Masaryk University. This course was attended by 13 undergraduate and graduate students. The aim of this course was to provide an opportunity for students to fully realize their research projects which were developed in the previous term. Regular consultations were dealing with conceptual and methodological troubles students were facing in the research process. There was a similar course "Forshungspraktikum 2." taught by





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Elisabeth Donat, taking place at the Department of Sociology, Innsbruck university.

(b) The second intensive methodological workshop organized by Csaba Szaló was taking place in Brno 3.6.2011. From the Innsbruck university Elisabeth Donat and 7 students were attending the workshop (Josef Untermarzoner, Sandra Pletzer, Mathias Lugaer, Julian Fischnaller, Lukas Kindl, Katharina Posch, Claudia Daxel). Unfortunately, the third, final workshop which was planned for Brno could not happen because of the scarcity of time and other responsibilities mainly on the side of partners from Innsbruck. For this reason the workshop was focusing both on the presentation of results as well as on methodological problems which were student teams dealing with during the research process.

ECTS workload

Each of the courses at the Masaryk University were granted 10 ECTS credits. The credit value of the courses followed particularly the standards of the Department of Sociology and generally the standards of the Masaryk University. Accordingly 1 ECTS credit requires 25 hours of workload for 19 weeks which included 13 weeks of the teaching period and 6 weeks of the exam period. The courses granted with 10 ECTS credits 250 hours of workingload, that is 26 contact-hours and 224 hours of coursework. This means approximately 12 hours of coursework per week which includes reading the assigned literature, making notes, proceeding the research interviews, transcribing the interviews, writing fieldnotes, interpretation of data, and working on a final case study.

The Results of the Project

Beside the described activities participants of the project developed 15 research projects (see appendix 1.) and a questionnaire dealing with regional identity (see appendix 2). A quantitative research dealing with Tyrolian identity (see appendix 3.) and a set of four qualitative case studies dealing with Moravian identity was completed (see appendix 4).

Financial support

The details of the financial support and spending in the year 2011 can be found in the appendix 5. All the financial details related to the year 2010 were part of the report last year.

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