

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The aim of the project is to investigate the socio-spatial transitions occurring on the Polish-German border since its opening in 2007 until today. On the one hand we are dealing with processes of debordering, i.e. the elimination of border controls, on the other hand, this the different cultural spaces still exists in the public consciousness, and even processes of debordering can be observed at the micro level (eg. building fences and setting up alarm systems).

The conducted research will consist of several stages, using different research methods. At the beginning, initial observation of key knots of transborder mobility will be carried out with the use of so-called "shooting script" photographic registration (There were selected two main case studies on each side of the border Slubice and Frankfurt an der Oder and Pózná and Grieben). Then it will be carried out quantitative analysis of visual iconography associated with the presence of the border, that operate in the public discourse. Further is planned to carry out expert interviews with representatives of institutions and individuals involved in cross-border cooperation projects. Next stage would consist of conducting interviews using mobile and visual methods. Diaries of mobile activity of the respondents would be created, as well as mental maps, walking with video and sociological film. It is also planned to carry out in-depth interviews with people who arrive at the border from places far away from it (eg. from Poznan). The end result of the research process will be to create a hybrid map and report, as well as the texts submitted for publication in well estimated scientific international journals.

The reason for that research subject was the importance of the processes that currently taking place on the Polish-German border, so one side of the border between the two countries, on the other, its duration in the knowledge and practices of the inhabitants of these areas, and building new forms of border practices in the face of changing social reality (also its technological and political layer). These studies are of particular importance in the context of today's situation in Europe, which is characterized by contradictory tendencies: the deepening of integration, but also disintegrate processes of revival of the state countries. Research project on the Polish-German borderland may therefore constitute a kind of laboratory to identify and attempt to explain the fundamental problems at the level of Europe-wide. The above mentioned benefits of cooperation researchers from Polish and German can be completed even with the possibility of using these tests in certain situations on the border, where the cooperating organizations and institutions that confronted with situations requiring emergency action. The results of this project may facilitate the implementation of such actions.