

SEMINÁŘ ETNOLOGICKÉHO ÚSTAVU AV ČR

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Grandfathers in the Wehrmacht

Abstract: The project Grandfathers in the Wehrmacht focuses on a community living on the Czech side of the Czech-Polish border, the Hlučíns. This small community has numerous times changed its national affiliation and as a result the Hlučíns were given different labels at different times, such as: Silesians, Moravci, Czechs, Germans, Nazis, Communists, Catholics, Collaborators, Victims, or Perpetrators. These days, the contemporary Hlučíns are considered Czech. However, their difficult heritage of fighting on the 'wrong side' (in the German Wehrmacht) during the Second World War regularly rises to the surface and continues to challenge official narratives and established identities. How can communities, such as the Hlučíns, celebrate their heritage, and give a voice to their ancestors, if their heritage is problematic, and habitually silenced and delegitimized by the nation-state apparatus? The case study of the Hlučíns' mnemonic politics and negotiations provides a theoretical analysis of how the past can be selectively and politically used to support or sabotage competing cultural identities.

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ONLINE MS Teams, odkaz pro připojení zde: [Seminář EÚ 3. 5. 2021](#)



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