

ETHNIC CATEGORIES IN THE EVERYDAY DISCOURSE OF THE INHABITANTS OF BEREKSZÁSZ

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Ethnic categories in the everyday discourse of the inhabitants of Beregszász
In the study, the ethnicity of Beregszász will be illustrated by the discourse analysis of focus group discussions. We rely on a research carried out in the summer of 2016, which is thematically and according to its point of view, based on a research on everyday ethnicity conducted by Brubaker et al. ([2005] 2011) in Cluj. The study of ethnicity determining the identity of ethnic identity has a crucial role. Characteristics of the constructive identity in the study - constructed nature, eventuality, instability, diversity, plasticity - radically changed the interpretation of the concept of identity, as ethnic groups are described in a completely new light (Brubaker – Cooper, 2000). Barth (1969) claiming the cultural determination of the identity created the concept of ethnic boundaries, according to whom the ethnic boundaries are created through cultural elements. The study of ethnicity from the aspect of categorization (identification) started from this change of viewpoint (Hale 2004, Fearon Laitin 2000)) in terms of which various social activities beyond its ethnic content and the relevance of the establishment of ethnic boundaries is examined. Brubaker et al. ([2005] 2011) turned our attention to ethnic activities, relationships between Hungarians and Romanians in Transylvania. Despite several attacks on their approach towards the assessment of some segments (Messing 2006, Lorincz 2008, Marác 2015), such thoughtful empirical studies presenting a constrictivist point of view concerning ethnicity have not been presented. In my analysis I would like to focus on research questions on the Transcarpathian Hungarian and Ukrainian everyday ethnicity. The examination of the ethnicity requires a qualitative research method, mainly because ethnicity is not a subject that could be explained by examining a given phenomenon, so several topics should be considered. Secondly, because of the plasticity and variability of ethnicity it is site-specific, as each municipality is based on their own social structure and habits of ethnic relations and have different characters. In the light of the Cluj example, my examination focuses on a particular settlement in Transcarpathia, Beregszász, where we introduce ethnicity in everyday life on the basis of the social and ethnic characteristics. Social constructivism and discourse analysis are used as a methodological approach to display and interpret the results. The analysis of the opinions have been divided into two parts: the first topic was originally ethnically neutral followed by examples of ethnic themes. Through the approach of social constructivism the creation of daily life, its changes and thinking in ethnic categories will be presented.

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