

VÝSKUMNÝ SEMINÁR



Dr. hab. Marcin Brocki

Jagiellonian University in Krakow

Head of the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology

Local identity under political pressure. The clash of ethnicity, economy, and politics - the case study in contemporary Poland

27. november 2018 | 13.30 h | miestnosť A012 | FSEV UK

The presentation base on the ongoing ethnographic research in small municipality of Dobrzeń Wielki near Opole in south-western Poland were the group of anthropologists under Petr Skalník leadership conducts fieldwork since 2014. The municipality is ethnically diverse and German-minority dominate local government since 90-ies. The diversity and local history were the main factors precluding local community building but there was a slow progress in recent years. In 2015 the regional authorities of Opole voivodeship, supported by Polish government, announced their intention to annex the most economically profitable part of the municipality (with large Power Plant – the investment that has never been neutral to local community). The resentments toward Germans were involved in the “grabing land” process but they caused surprising reaction on the part of Dobrzeń municipality people – the rapid consolidation of the local ties and selective rejection of ethnic stereotypes. The boundaries within community were adjourned and the “nation-state” became the Other. “European values”, “western standards” and even “western civilization” are called as a reference points for consolidation against the Other. The conflict activated those frames of reference not because there is a deeply rooted belief in belonging to such a large entities as “Europe”, but because the quasi-grammar structure of we-others relation (that is, the reduction in the complexity of the situation to a narrow set of binary oppositions) is the ready to hand way to handle the dramatic, sudden change. Thus the question of belonging should be carefully settled within the contexts of the use of particular frame of reference (be it local, regional, national or supranational).

Dr. hab. Marcin Brocki

Ethnologist and Cultural anthropologist, assistant professor, Head of the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology at Jagiellonian University in Krakow (Poland). Research interests: theory in anthropology, intercultural communication, community studies, postsocialism. Fieldwork: divers sites in Poland, surveys in Zimbabwe, Ethiopia. Selected publications: 1) Antropologia społeczna i kulturowa w przestrzeni publicznej (Social and Cultural Anthropology in Public Space), Krakow 2013, 2) Semiotics of Culture and New Polish Ethnology, “Sign System Studies”, vol. 31, no 1, 2003, 3) The Late 1980s and Early 1990s in Poland as a Dynamic Process in Culture. The Question about Bifurcation, [w:] Semiotics of Communications, A. Lusińska, A. Kalinowska-Żeleźnik (red.), Gdańsk; 4) Predicaments of Public Anthropology, [w:] Cultivating Pathways of Creative Research: New Horizons of Transformative Practice and Collaborative Imagination, A. K. Giri (red.), Primus Books, Delhi 2016, s. 259-27; 5) The Problem of Universal Values and Intercultural Space – New/Old Predicament of Anthropology, „Politeja”, 2016, nr 5 (44), s. 131-142.

Fakulta sociálnych a ekonomických vied

Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave

Mlynské luhy 4, Bratislava