

Spatial distribution of toponyms with the adjective "Czech": cultural heritage, historical processes and regional identity

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This paper examines the spatial distribution of toponyms containing the adjectival modifier “Czech” (český/á/é) within the territory of Czechia and the factors that have shaped their spatial pattern. The results are based on a spatial analysis of the current occurrence of these toponyms and are presented through cartographic outputs. The analysis reveals clear spatial regularities, with a key role played by the border effect (state, provincial, and historical ethnic boundaries) together with associated cultural historical processes. The interpretation focuses on historical impulses and processes that contributed to the establishment of the adjectival modifier “Czech” in toponyms. In this respect, three main periods of development can be identified: the late 18th century, the mid-19th century, and the period following the end of the First World War. The paper demonstrates a close relationship between toponymic development, historical events, and regional identity in space. It further highlights the role of place names as carriers of cultural memory and as an important component of cultural heritage embedded in the landscape.

