

Local Identity – Applications of the Concept

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(Summary)

The text presents a mosaic of separate cases which may appear divergent at first glance, but they have in common the application of the concept “local identity”. The contexts and empirical fields in which the concept is embedded (or derived from) are quite diverse thus resulting in possible semantic deviations in the interpretation and scientific application of the concept. The content of the exposition is a review and a commentary reading in the section presenting other texts (German, Russian and Bulgarian), but includes the personal viewpoint of the author based on her observation of the local (regional) identity of the Gorans – a Slavic speaking community in Albania and Kosovo. The author does not claim to present all possible aspects of applying the concept, but rather attempts to delineate a provisional framework of meanings by presenting the concept’s “readings” and what they have in common in their theoretical construction. This provisional framework will provide a broader definition of “local identity” by its relatively universal functioning.

Keywords: local identity, tourism, town, social networks, Gorans

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