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S u m m a r y

The first volume of *Ethnological and Anthropological Studies* edited by a group of scholars consisting of ethnologists from the Cieszyn branch of the University of Silesia is a contribution to the debate concerning the cultural transformations of life patterns of borderland ethnic and cultural communities. The volume consists of two parts. One of them entitled: *Ethnic Identity of Inhabitants of Cieszyn Silesia*, contains considerations concerning the specificity of ethnic, ethnic-cultural and regional identities of inhabitants of Cieszyn Silesia situated on both sides of Polish-Czech border. The articles included in this part contain reports from empirical studies devoted to different aspects and dimensions of cultural identities of inhabitants of the region: language as an element of preservation of ethnic identity of Poles from Zaolzie, spatial differentiation in the perception of their own region, economic basis of identity behaviour.

Some of the essays are devoted to different social groups on the Polish-Czech border: youth and dimensions of it's regional identity, cultural changes of Silesian Uplanders, history of Jews in Cieszyn Silesia.

The second part of the volume is entitled: *Ethnic Identification on Borderlands and on 'Transborder' Areas. Materials and Theoretical Implications*. It contains theoretical considerations — frequently supported by empirical studies — concerning the changes of national and cultural identity on the Polish-Belorussian borderland of the following relations: national and regional identifications, traditional culture and cultural identity, identity and accommodation.

In the present work questions concerning the current facets of the phenomenon called „regional identity”, „ethnic-cultural identity” and the transformations within it have been asked.