

JAROSŁAW MALICKI

SUMMARY

The Relation between Silesia and the Czech Speaking Community in the Development of Linguistic Consciousness of Czechs and Moravians until the End of the 18th Century

Written evidence of the social and linguistic consciousness of those who spoke old and medieval Czech show, among other things, the development of the perception of language, of its social and geographical scope and of its integrating role in the society. In the historical textual sources the terms *Czech / Slavonic language* included not only the areas of native Czech-speaking persons but also Slavonic areas in the neighborhood, especially Silesia. In the Czech lands the language in Silesia was regarded as a mixed language, but the terms *Czech and Slavonic language* were used alternately and signified, besides the own language and the Slavonic language that was somehow superior to the languages in the surrounding Slavonic countries, also the State language and common language in the Lands of the Czech Crown. Thus, additional dimensions were applied to the Czech language. As a result of this a notion of its importance beyond the Czech and Moravian lands was created. This could have an impact on the reception of new questions of linguistic-ethnic nature.