

## **Abstract**

In this work I describe a Czech group of people who gather around the themes of exopolitics (political relations with extraterrestrials), history and spirituality. With this description, I answer my research question of whether it is relevant to apply religious studies methods to a group that defines itself in opposition to religion. For this purpose, I conducted five semi-structured interviews and completed two days of participant observation. I analyze and frame the collected data using Ninian Smart's seven dimensions of the sacred. First, I adapt the given method to be applicable to this contemporary phenomenon. I use Zygmunt Bauman's terms of "solid and liquid modernity". The seven dimensions were constructed by Ninian Smart in solid modernity, and so its framework must be adapted to be applicable to liquid modernity phenomena such as this group. The ritual dimension is shown to be strongly present, specifically in their rituals and methods for contacting extraterrestrial beings and cultivating the "inner self". I approach the doctrinal dimension through the lens of liquid modernity, where characteristics that are not perceived as doctrine by the group itself are shown as such. The narrative dimension manifests itself through authors such as Zecharia Sitchin and Erich von Däniken. The experiential dimension is proving to be one of the most important for group members. In contrast, the ethical dimension, due to the loose boundaries of the group, is not so clear. In the social dimension, charismatic figures emerge as essential to the life of the phenomenon. Finally, the material dimension is based largely on evidence of the existence of extraterrestrial beings. This illustrates that even though this group does not consider itself a religion, it is viable to examine it using the methods of religious studies.

Key words: exopolitics, extraterrestrial beings, liquid modernity, dimensions of the sacred