

The submitted thesis is titled "Arab National Minorities in Germany". Its primary aim is to shed light for a Czech reader on the much discussed issues of large foreigner communities in a 'Western' (in this case German) society that are perceived as culturally different from the rest of the population, thus giving rise to a number of stereotypes and anxieties as well as, occasionally, open conflicts. Basic research questions refer to the true nature of those minorities, the implications of their presence there and the way the state approaches them.

First, the paper justifies the term 'Arab minorities', proceeding to the circumstances of their emergence and growth in Germany. Developments of those groups after the World War II are dealt with in more detail and are differentiated according to the basic processes: recruitment of labour force as applied for Morocco and Tunisia, and reception of 'refugee waves notably in cases of Lebanon, Algeria and Iraq. In the second chapter, a characterization of the respective minorities is provided, as seen from several diverse points of view. First the national composition, geographical distribution and religious affiliation are examined, subsequently turning attention to the formal characteristics of the minorities (especially the residence status) and finally to the social issues such as employment, family life and education.

The third chapter forms the paper's core and focuses on the interaction of Arab minorities with the German majority society. At the beginning the diverse Arab-Muslim organizational structures are dealt with, including membership in umbrella Islamic institutions.

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