BORDERLAND: BORDER LANDSCAPE ACROSS EUROPE

CULTURAL IDENTITY ACROSS THE BORDER

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1. Introduction

• The research area: Catalan La Jonquera and French Le Perthus
• The main aim of this research was to:
  1. compare people’s cultural identity from both sides of the borderline
  2. answer what is cultural identity
  3. if the cultural identity is exposed by inhabitants from La Jonquera and Le Perthus
2. Theoretical background

- Cultural identity is a permanent identification of groups of people who share common territory, ideas, normative system and language which distinguish ethnic groups from one another and from the dominant culture.
- Landscape
- Border
3. Data and methods

- Statistic data to compare regions of Northern Catalonia and Southern France
- An interview in La Jonquera and Le Perthus about people’s cultural identity
- Analysing the results and graphs
Cultural identity

4.1 Catalonia

4.2 Andorra

4.3 France
4.1 Catalonia

Sources: http://pensemgeografia.files.wordpress.com/2011/05/mapacatalunyafisic550.gif,
Structure of Catalonia

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catalonia
The government of Catalonia is known as the Generalitat de Catalunya. It consists of:

- **a)** Parlament of Catalunya
- **b)** President (Artur Mas)
- **c)** The Council of Ministers

Catalunya has the Statute of Autonomy, which is the fundamental organic law.
Catalan culture

- Catalan culture has developed its own unique and universal identity over the centuries. Traditionally, art and thought trends seep into Catalonia as a result of the country's geographic location, open to the Mediterranean and European countries, and also due to the leading spirit and attraction created by Barcelona. Catalonia has always been an intersection of cultures and influences.
Symbols of Catalan culture

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catalonia
Catalan language

• The official language of Catalonia is Catalan.
• Established between 8th and 10th centuries as evolution of Latin as were Spanish, French and Italian languages.
• 98.8% citizens understand this language and it is nearly seven millions people.
• Catalan is also the only official language in Andorra and it is used to the south of France too.
• There are total of nine million people that speak Catalan and about eleven million that understand it.
Events

The National Day of Catalonia
(first celebrated in September 11\textsuperscript{th} 1886)

Saint George’s Day

http://cdn.20minutos.es/img2/recortes/2011/04/20/16805-797-550.jpg
Catalan culinary traditions

Catalan meal *esceduella i carn d’olla*

*Po amb tomàquet.*

Demography
Catalonia covers an area of 32,114 km² with an official population of 7,354,411 (2008), of which non-Spanish immigrants represent an estimated 12.3%.

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Curiosity

Physiotherapy career

Source: https://lh6.ggpht.com/YsJfxHIJ-plhJwcN6Oh-ltaaWnHNEgLN9cqbcH1Edl_Rs7njDL5S9gm5IKCAEYYPraw8=s127
4.2 Andorra

- A microstate in the central Pyrenees
- 468 km$^2$, population 76,000 people
- Official language is Catalan
- Other languages are Spanish, French and Portuguese
- 30% of population are native, immigrants from Spain, France and Portugal
- Main religion is Roman Catholicism
Andorra

- Andorra was isolated before 20th century
- The cultural features are formed with the influence of Catalonia and France, also immigration and tourism have had a major impact on the culture
- A rich folklore culture which originates from Andalucia and the Netherlands
Andorra

- Typical dances are marratxa and the contrapàs
- The cuisine has influence from France and Spain
- The traditional festivals and holidays have their own traditional cuisine
4.3 France

- There is 27 regions in France
- Languedoc-Roussillon and Midi-Pyrénées share border with Catalonia
- Major religion: Roman Catholicism
- Cultural identity is heterogenous and it’s the result of many internal forces: educational system, mandatory military service, language, cultural policies and events, history, sports
Languedoc-Roussillon

- The location and the flag of Languedoc-Roussillon

Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Languedoc-Roussillon
Languedoc-Roussillon

- Southernmost region of France
- 27,000 km², population 2,500,000
- The region consists of several historical provinces
- Northern Catalonia: the very southernmost part of Languedoc-Roussillon
  - Roussillon, Vallespir, Conflent, Capcir, Cerdagne
Languedoc-Roussillon: language

- French is the dominant language of the region
- Occitan and Catalan were spoken before 20th century
- In Roussillon Catalan is still spoken, and there have been attempts to revive both Occitan and Catalan in the region
Languedoc-Roussillon: cuisine

- Diverse combination of the Mediterranean, the Catalan and the mountain cuisine
- Impacts from the cuisines of Aragon and northern Italy
- Minor impacts from the cuisines of Spain and Morocco
Languedoc-Roussillon: cuisine

- The main flavours of the cuisine are olive oil, tomatoes, garlic, onions and aromatic herbs
- Sea food
- Specialities: oysters, gardiane, bourride, morue catalane, anchoiade and crema catalane
- Cheeses: pelardon, roquefort, bleu des causees
Midi-Pyrénées

- The location and the flag of Midi-Pyrénées

Sources:http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Midi-Pyrenees
Midi-Pyrénées

- The largest of the regions of France
- 45 000 km², population 2 800 000
- The region consists of several historical provinces
- Dominant language: French, minor languages spoken by older people Occitan and Gascon
- Cuisine: combination of French, Spanish and Gasgony cuisines
5. Research area
La Jonquera
Le Perthus

6. RESULTS

Our research group have made an interview about cultural identity of people living on both sides of Catalan-French border. The survey was made in La Jonquera and Le Perthus. We have asked people of different ages about this:

1. Do Catalan people speak French?/ Do French people speak Catalan?

2. Reasons to visit La Jonquera and Le Perthus.

3. The relations between Catalan and French people.

4. There is some kind of conflict.

5. Using of cultural symbols.
## CATALAN RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Speak French</th>
<th>The relation with French people</th>
<th>Reasons to Visit</th>
<th>Type of a conflict</th>
<th>Using cultural symbols</th>
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<td>Shopping</td>
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<td><strong>Catalan 25 years old</strong></td>
<td>A little bit</td>
<td>Only Business</td>
<td>No Visit</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Catalan Flag and Barcelona t-shirt</td>
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<td>Only Business</td>
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<td>No Visit</td>
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<td>No expression</td>
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<td>No</td>
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</table>

Table 1: Cultural identity research in La Jonquera and Le Perthus
Do Catalan people speak French?

Reasons to visit La Jonquera and Le Perthus

Prepared by Grup 3
The relation with French people

Using cultural symbols

Prepared by Grup 3
### FRENCH RESULTS

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<tr>
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Table 2: Cultural identity research in La Jonquera and Le Perthus
Do French people speak Catalan?

- No: 17%
- A little bit: 16%
- Si: 67%

Reasons to visit La Jonquera and Le Perthus.

- Shopping: 50%
- Shopping and Holidays: 50%

Prepared by Grup 3
Relations with Catalan people.

Using cultural symbols.

Prepared by Grup 3
7. Conclusions

• The most important symbol which distinguishes Catalans from other ethnic group is Catalan language
• Even if there are Catalans on two sides of border, they tolerate each other
• The difference between Catalans from France and Catalonia might be caused by the territory where they live
  • Catalonia
  • France
• Cultural identities change gradually across the borders of states and the cultures of the states sharing a border share also cultural features
• In the case of Catalonia, France and Andorra, the cultures have influenced each other in the past and nowadays
8. Bibliography


• BACKGROUNDPHOTOS: Andrzejak Agata, Gęsigóra Marta, Frankowska Klaudia