



# Vývoj správních regionů II. The Development of Administrative Regions II.

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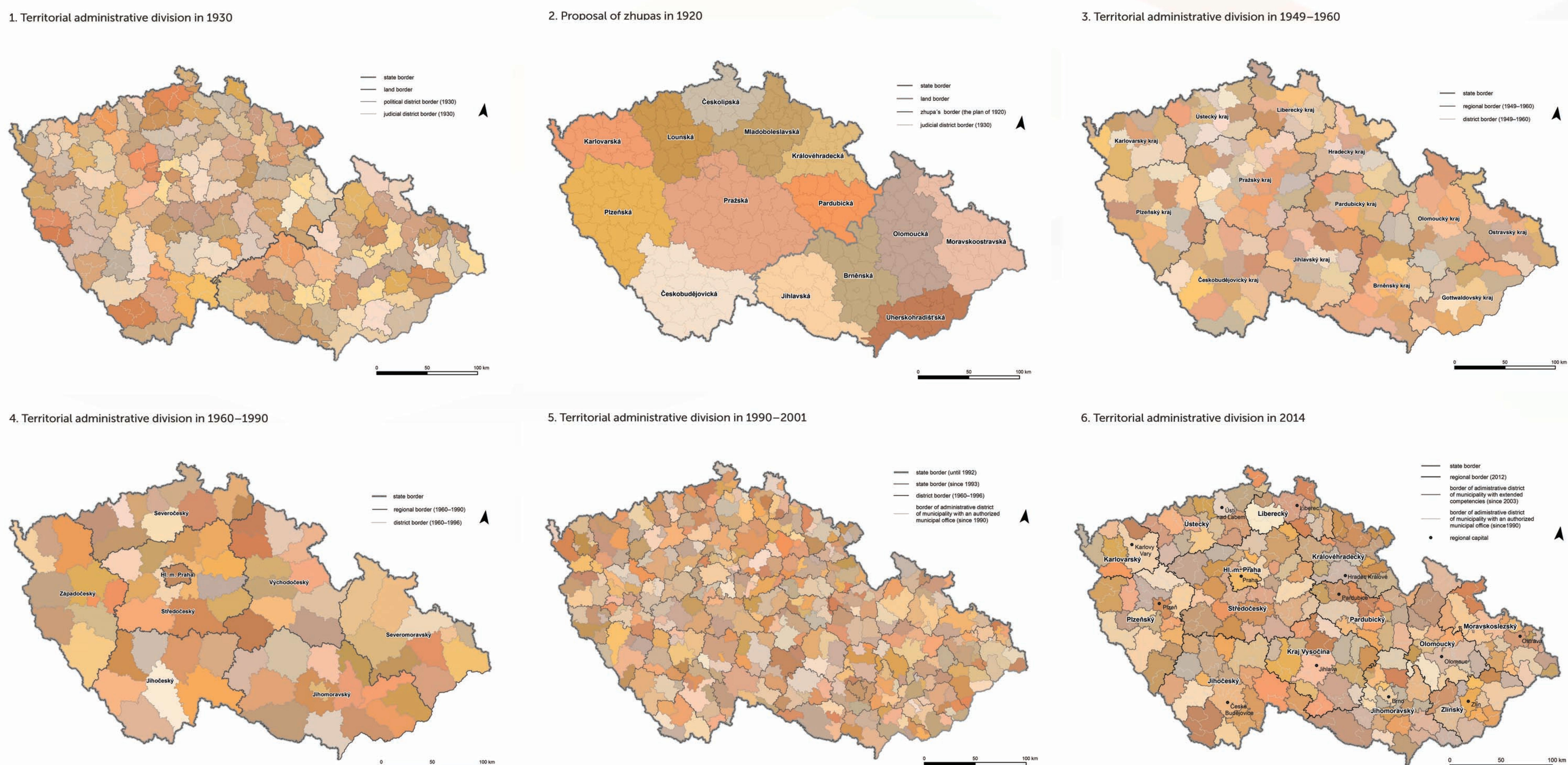
Starting in the mid-19th century, significant changes took place in the territorial administration of Czechia. They reflected the dynamic social, political, and economical transformations of Austrian and Austro-Hungarian state, Czechoslovakia after 1918, and Czechia after 1993.

Between the years 1848–1850, the administration was nationalized and democratized at all levels. Instead of the patrimonial administration, political and judicial districts were established at the microregional level; regions continued to exist at the mezoregional level (until the year 1868). Lands represented the highest level of administration. In 1855, political and judicial sector merged together and so-called "combined" districts were created. Czechoslovakia took over the system of political and judicial districts (renamed in 1918) after 1918. An attempt to introduce zhupas (at the mezoregional level) in the 1920s was unsuccessful. The merging of Moravia and Silesia in 1927 created the Moravian-Silesian Land.

The reintroduction of regions occurred during the administrative reform in 1949. Lands were abolished and judicial administration was again combined with political administration. The territorial division of regions reflects the natural links between centers and their hinterlands. In 1960, as a result of the Communist regime's consolidation of political and economic power, large districts and regions were established, which did not correspond to the historic relationships within the regional system.

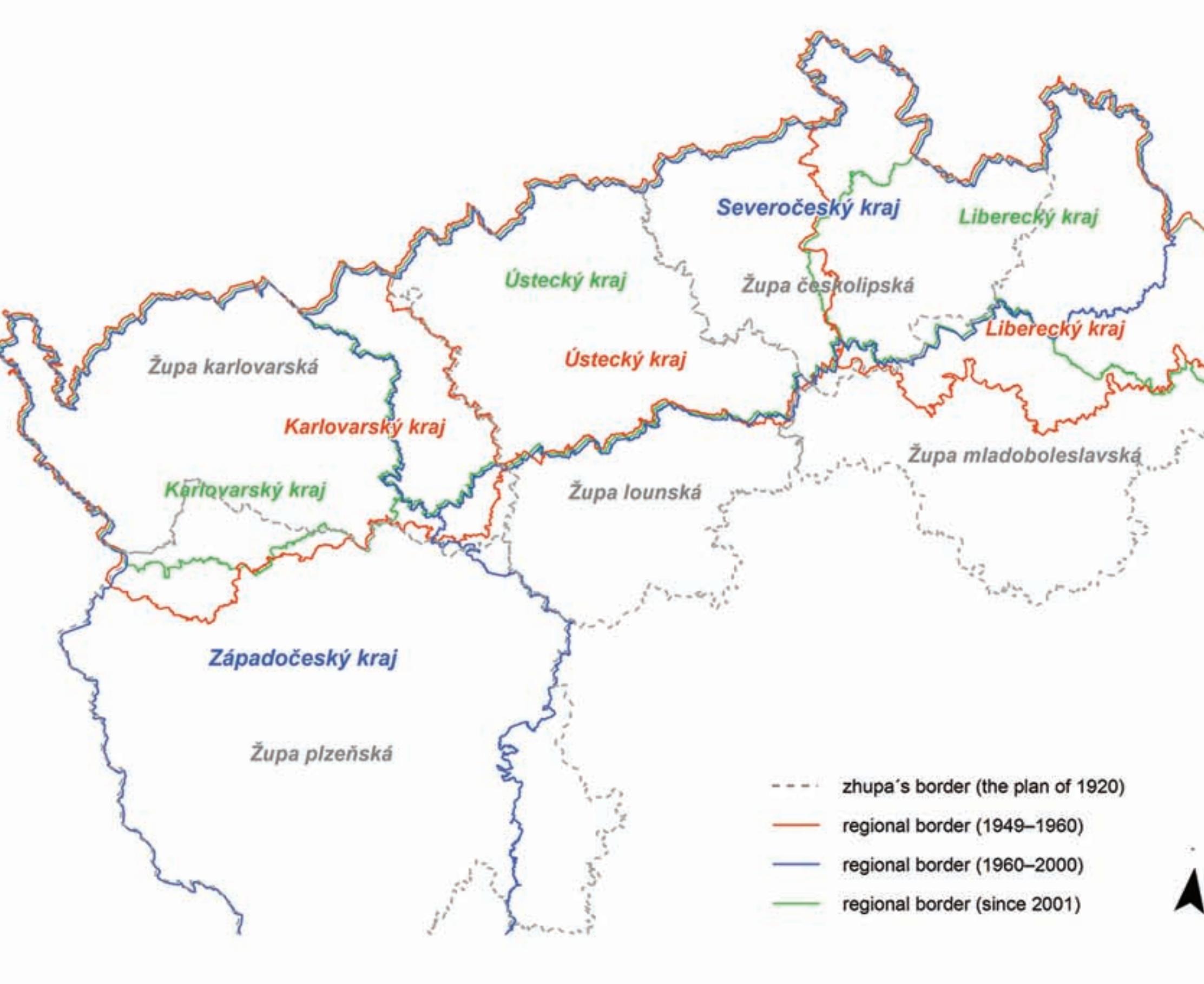
The changes that occurred after the year 1989 affected territorial administration as well – especially at the level of municipalities and regions. The territorial administration reform was divided into two phases: in the years 1997–2001 and 2002–2003. Regions and Administrative Regions of Municipalities with Extended Competencies (so-called small districts) were established. Reconstructive maps of the administrative regions created with the help of GIS can be used to study, for example, the polarization process or regional identities.

Reconstructive maps of the administrative division of Czechia during the "modern administration" period  
Source: Burda 2014b.



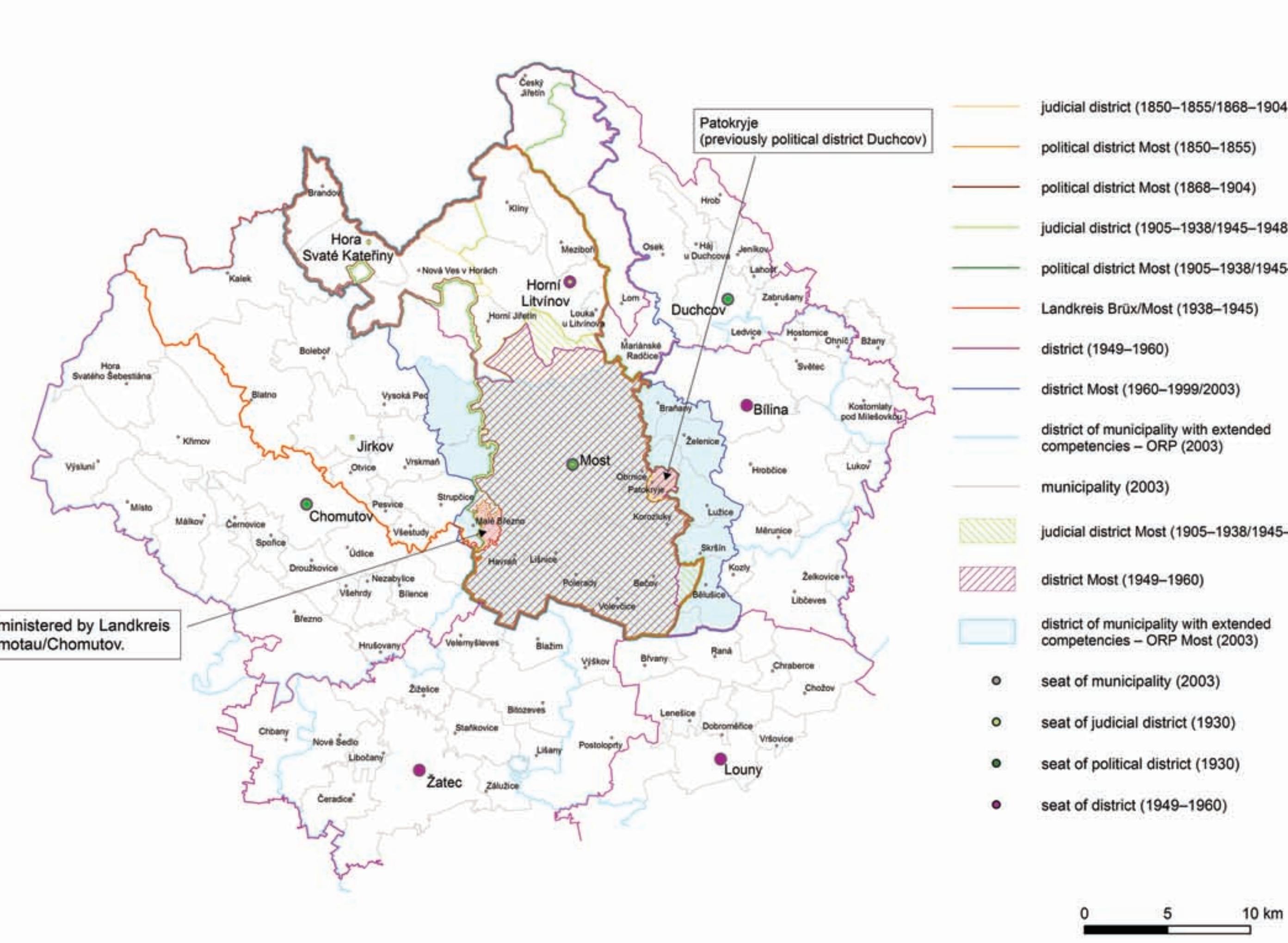
The most significant changes in the administrative division occurred in areas with interrupted settlement development, areas from where the Germans were expelled after 1945 and the settlement structure was subsequently significantly disrupted, this was also where the territorial identity of the inhabitants underwent the most significant changes.

Example of the development of administrative division of Northwest Bohemia



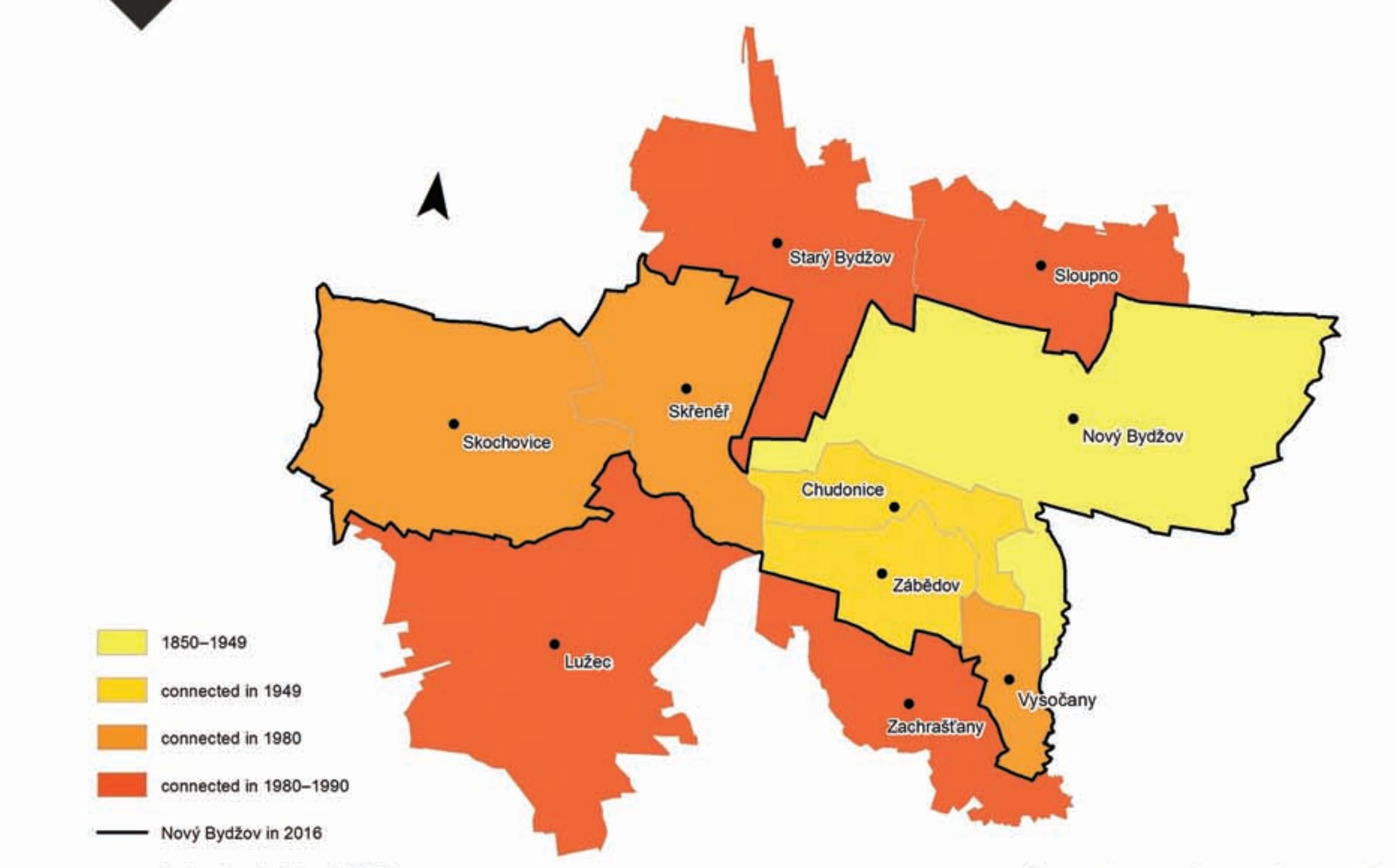
Regions also frequently changed at the microregional level during relatively stable developmental periods, the reason for this was, for example, the intensive exploitation of the landscape in the areas affected by mining for raw materials and significant industrial activity.

The development of territorial administration in the Most region from 1850 to the present  
Source: Burda 2014a.



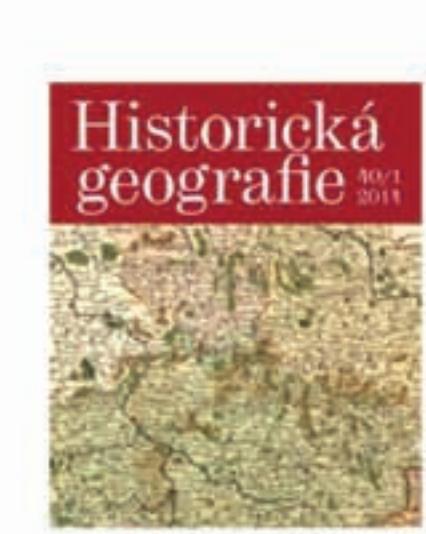
Changes in the administrative division are evident at the local level of municipalities primarily in the period after the year 1945, when the original number of almost 12 000 municipalities decreased to 4 100 before the year 1989, the disintegration of municipalities after 1990 raised their number to today's 6 250.

The administrative development of Nový Bydžov

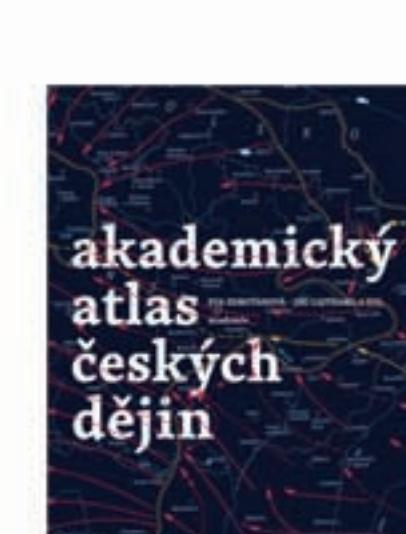


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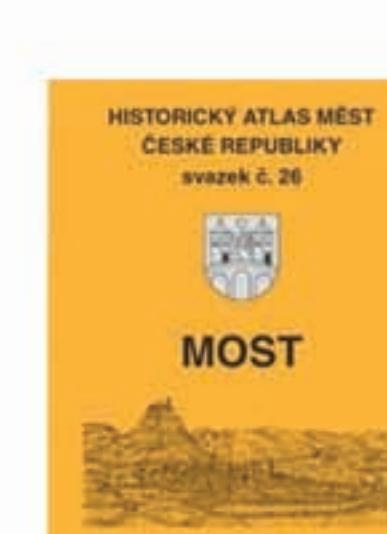
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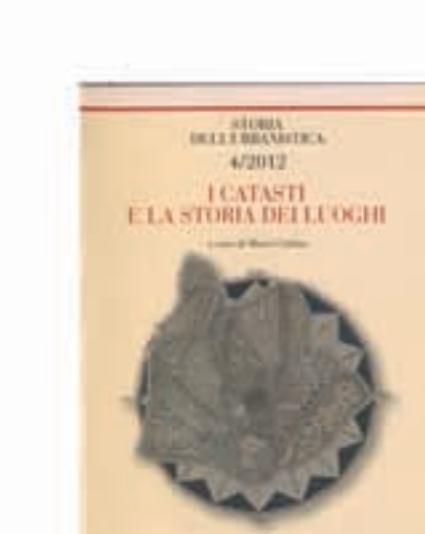
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