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THE POLLUTION AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION IN VARIOUS LANDSCAPE UNITS IN SLOVENIA (RESULTING FROM PATTERN RESEARCH)

Summary

The geographical variety of Slovenia is shown also in various consequences of pollution respectively degradation of environment in separately landscape units. Institut za geografijo (The Geographical Institute) attends more than 10 years the effects of environmental pollution in the most degraded areas. These differs among themselves not only from geographical characteristics (Alpine valleys, pre-alpine basins and valleys, sub-panonian area) but also from kinds and quantities of emissions and number of the polluters. The biggest attention in this report is paid to the problems of air pollution which is in Slovenia most critical. Our research is designed as regional analyses in which we are trying to find the degradational role for particular landscape creative elements. We were trying to ascertain the relation between the air pollution and the environmental pollution in connection with the specific regional and climate characteristics of particular landscape units. We already researched in the details the landscape effects of the environmental pollution in 6 Slovene regions. An example of well ventilated narrow Alpine valley with the characteristic dusty emissions from the iron works is Jesenice. The second Alpine valley is Mežica, which is more sheltered and lies on the edge of Celovec basin. The negative effects of air pollution are enlarged upon frequent temperature inversions. The main polluter on this area is the zinc and lead melting-house with emissions of lead and SO₂ which is hardly neutralised in mainly silicon ground. The damages are mainly shown on the forest vegetation. Celje lies in the pre-alpine basin and is one of the biggest urban centres with strong degradation. The horizontal change of the air is slow, the inversi-

on is rather frequent. There is also a number of industrial polluters and in addition to that there are also communal emissions. The thermo power station is an important source of emission in the Šaleška basin. However, the internal inversion protects the bottom of the basin (and at the same time Šostanj and Velenje) from bigger imission. The most degraded and the most polluted environment has the imission area of Trbovlje. The negative influences of thermo power station on the town itself were diminished by the construction of a high chimney, but the narrow and hardly ventilated valley does not stand the emission from the other industrial plants, as well as the communal. The best geographical conditions has the imission area of Kidričevo, where the imissions do not achieve the poison concentration in spite of the big quantity of imission from the aluminium factory.