

MORAVIAN-GERMAN LITERATURE AS A RESEARCH OBJECT

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During the so-called "normalization", research into German literature from Bohemia and Moravia was out of bounds. However, as early as in the 70s and 80s, scholars who had been removed from their jobs in the aftermath of the Prague Spring, once more devoted scientific effort to German authors and their works. What they collected served as starting point for the research group on German-language Moravian literature which was founded in 1998 under the auspices of Olomouc University. The present article represents a progress report covering goals, research fields and activities of the Olomouc research group. The problems connected with devoting scientific effort to the research of a "literary backwater" are discussed as well as the potential benefits. The authors argue that "rediscovering" forgotten and allegedly less interesting authors may widen the field of view of German studies as a whole, and they propose an interdisciplinary approach to German-language Moravian literature as a research object.