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METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES IN THE RESEARCH ON SECOND HOMES: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE ALPINE REGION, SLOVENIA AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF KRANJSKA GORA METODOLOŠKI IZZIVI PRI PREUČEVANJU SEKUNDARNIH POČITNIŠKIH BIVALIŠČ: IZKUŠNJE IZ ALPSKE REGIJE, SLOVENIJE IN OBČINE KRANJSKA GORA

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ABSTRACT

Methodological challenges in the research on second homes: lessons learned from the Alpine region, Slovenia and the Municipality of Kranjska Gora

The article examines selected methodological challenges in research on second homes, putting into perspective the transnational, national and local levels, with the cases of the Alpine region, Slovenia and the Municipality of Kranjska Gora. The heterogeneity of residential patterns, the dynamic of housing development and the disparities in the terminology limit comparisons at international level. National data on second homes in Slovenia are put in focus of a critical evaluation, as they surprisingly show a decreasing trend in the last two decades, and were recently abolished as a statistical category. The article also discusses the differences of official databases of second homes in the Municipality of Kranjska Gora and addresses potential suggestions for improvement of their quality.

KEY WORDS

second homes, research methodology, research challenges, data quality, Municipality of Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, Alpine Region