

THE LIPOVANS

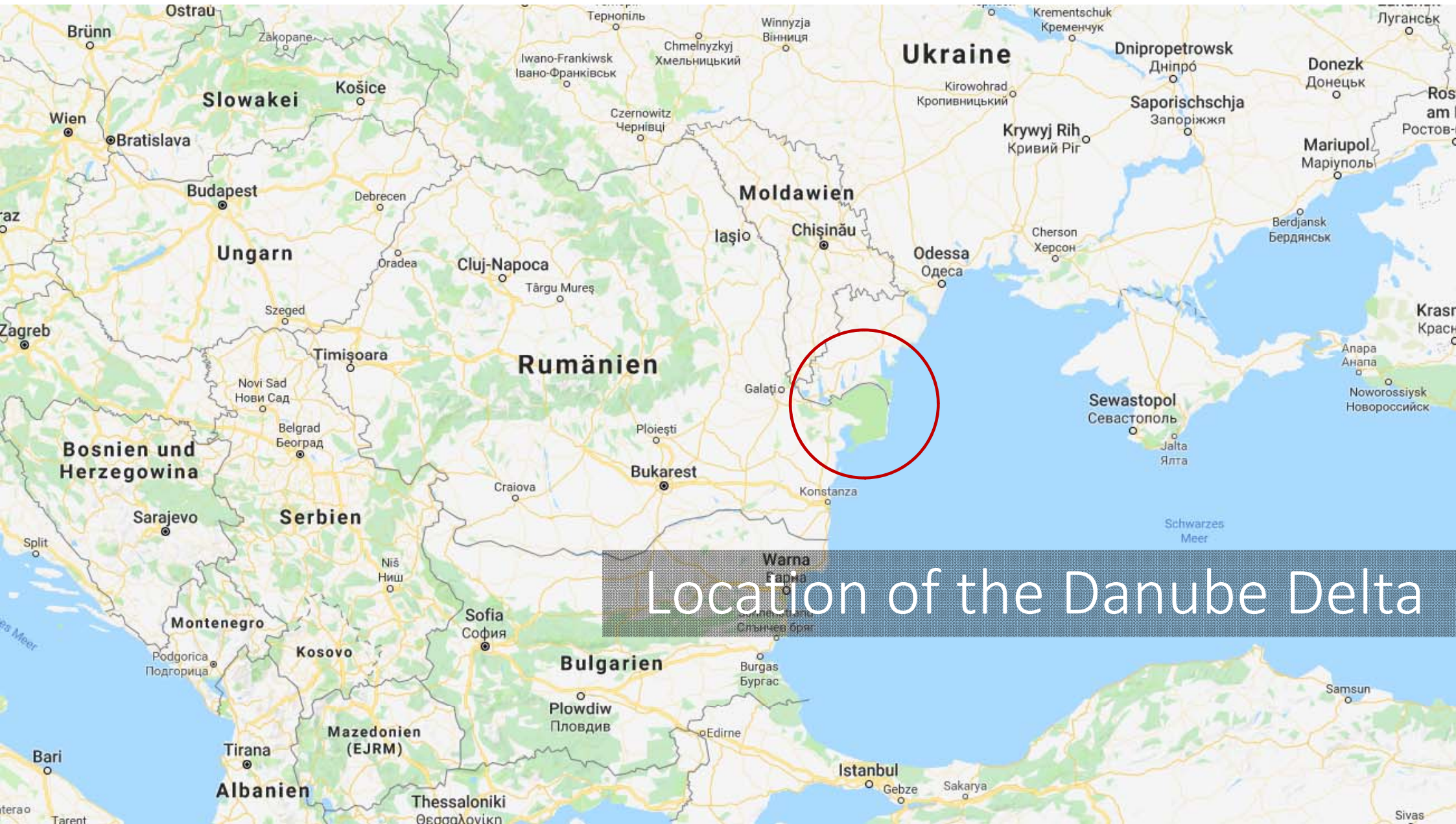


Russian old-believers as a religious and linguistic-cultural minority in the Romanian and Ukrainian Danube Delta

Structure of the presentation

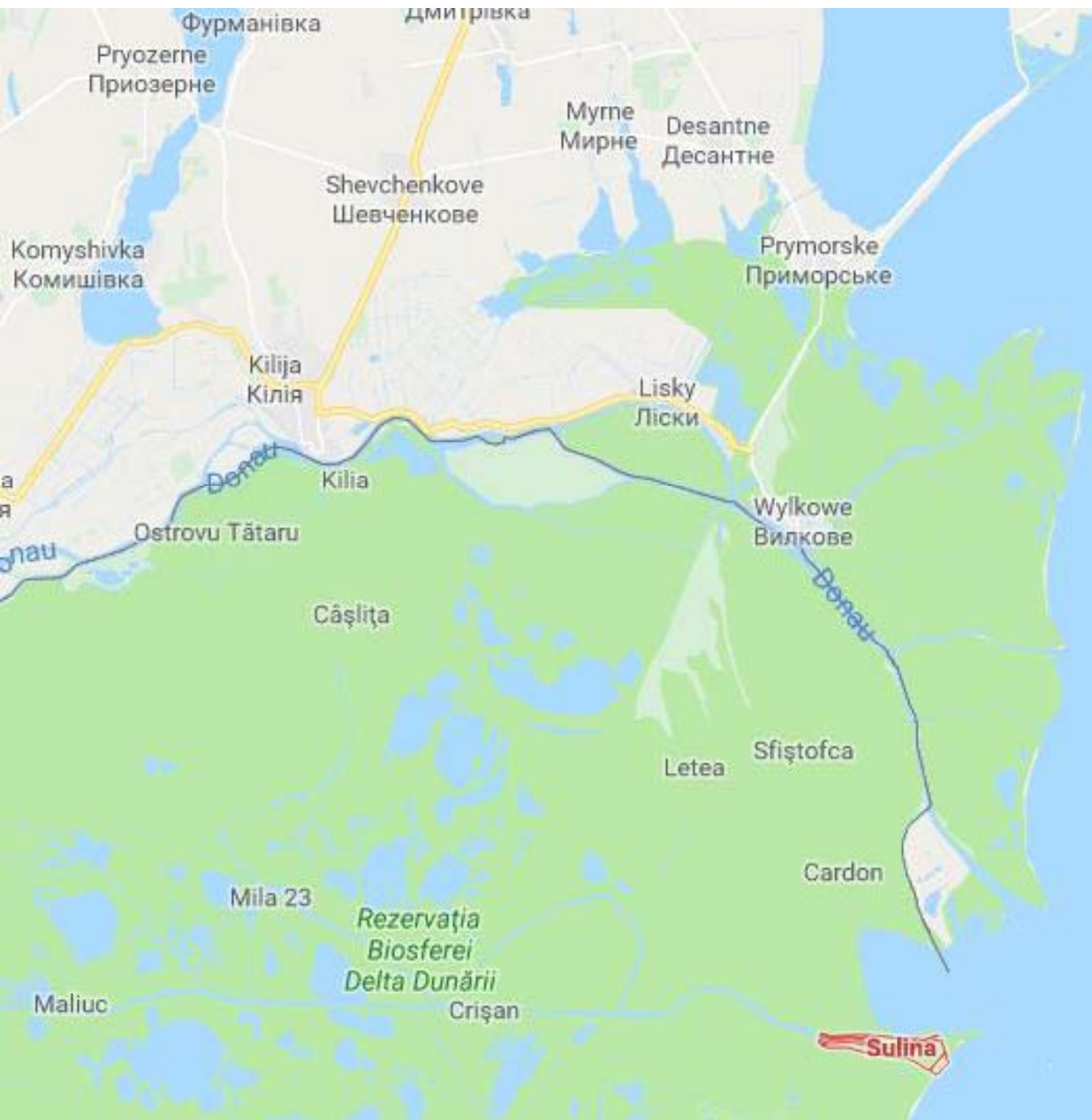
- Historical overview
- Meaning of the name „Lipovans“
- Danube-Delta as a border-region
- Identity
- Present living-situation
- Challenges for the future
- Pictures

- http://www.breiling.net/cb/publ/leichen_EN.pdf
- http://www.breiling.net/cb/publ/2016_leichen.pdf



Location of the Danube Delta

Map of the Danube Delta



Historical overview

- 1653 – reforms of the Moscow patriarch Nikon
- Escape from the Russian Empire between 1653 and 1905
- Settlement in the Danube-Delta (foundation of Vilково in 1746)
- Lipovans as a sub-group of the Russian Old-Believers (origin of the name „Lipovans“?)
- Danube-Delta as a border region between Romania and Ukraine

Old Lipovan prayer book



ВЪ ПРЪКНШРЪ ПЪСНЪ КЪ Я

И СЛОМУ ДВЪХЪ > НЕОПИСАНЪ > И ЕВРЕИ >
И ЖЕНЪ МОУЖЬ > ИЖЕ НЕИДЕ

В НА СОВѢТЪХЪ НЕЧЕРТНВЫХЪ >
И НА ПУТИ ГРѢШНЫХЪ НЕ СТА >
И НА СЪДАЛНИЦИ ГДВНТЕЛЪ
НЕ СЪДЕ . Но въ законѣ
ГДНИ БОЛА ЕГѠ > И ВЪ ЗАКОНѣ ЕГѠ
ПОВЧНТЕА ДНЬ И НОЩЕ . И БОУДЕТЪ



КД

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Traditional Lipovan motive



Lipovans as an ethnical group in the Danube Delta

Ethnos (Russian minority, influenced by Romanians, Moldovans, Ukrainians etc.)

Identity (based on religion, language and culture)

Language - „Lipovan dialect“ of the Russian language (influenced by the Romanian and Ukrainian language)

Lipovans as an ethnical group in the Danube Delta

- Religion - Russian-orthodox church of the old rite (most severe form of orthodoxy)
- Common historical knowledge (division of the ethnical group after 1945)
- Culture – cultural clubs (often with folklore-groups), folklore-festivals, festivals of Old-Believers (currently only in Romania)
- Various political opinions (positive view on communism, critical view on transformation-processes after the political turn, various opinions on the EU, mostly unhappiness with the current government)

Current living-situation

- Interviews with 80 Lipovans in the Romanian and Ukrainian Danube-Delta (different age-groups, rural vs. urban living-situation)
- School-education (language of education in Romania and Ukraine)
- General language-situation
- Religious situation

Current living-situation

- Common historical knowledge and contacts over the border
- Cultural situation
- Political situation

Issues for the future

- How can you motivate young Lipovans to stay in traditional rural areas?
- Which chances does tourism offer?
- How can you pass the religious rite to the young generation?

Issues for the future

- How can you motivate young Lipovans to study Russian?
(This question is important only for Romania)
- How can you keep the culture/folklore of the Lipovans?
- Which living-situation favours or prevents the continuity of the ethnical minority?

Lipovan Church of Mila 23



Lipovan folklore-festival in Constanța



Delta-Lake in Mila 23



Urban Lipovans in Sulina



Lipovan cross on the
multiethnic cemetery of Sulina



The deacon of Sfiștofca with his father



Rural Lipovans in Sfiștofca



Traditional handcraft in the
village-museum of Sfiștofca



The Lipovan cross
with eight ends



View on Sfiștofca



The channel of Sfiștofca



Vilkovo – The „Venice of Ukraine“





Lipovan children from Vilkovo welcome a tourist-ship from Vienna

Traditional Lipovan house in Vilkovo



Lipovan handcraft in the school of Vilkovo



The Lipovan church of Vilkovo



Lake Kitaj at Murawljowka



Subsistence-agriculture in Murawljowka



The priest of Murawljowka



View on Murawljowka



Autumn-evening in Murawljowka

