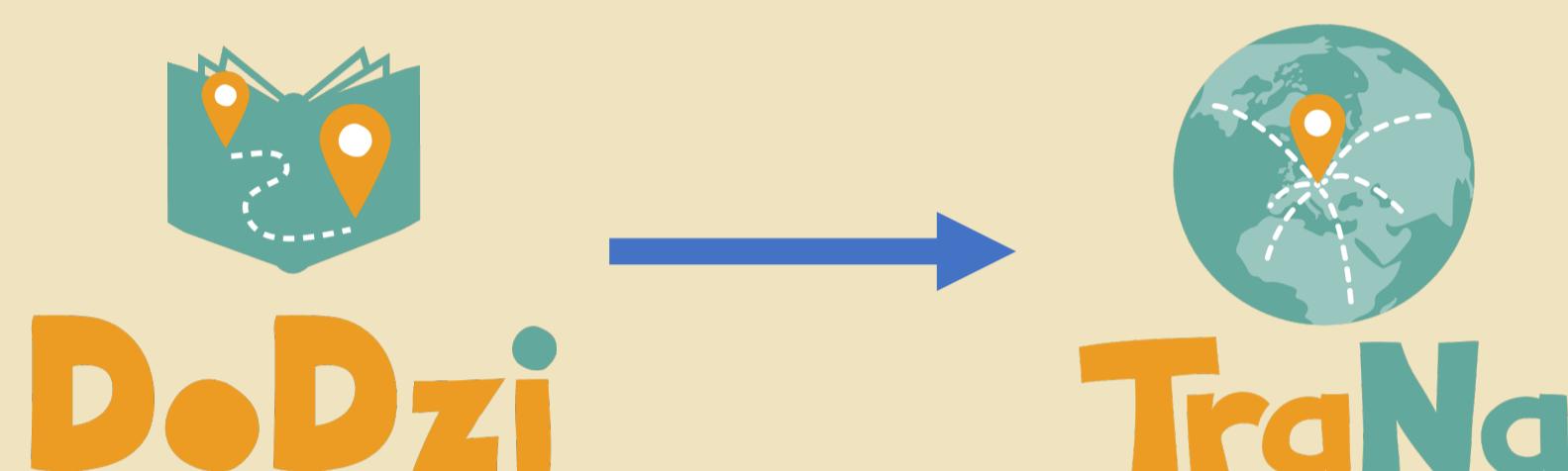


# **TraNa: Self-Positioning in transnational spaces – Children's narrations and narrations about children living in transnational families**

*(Samo)pozycjonowanie w przestrzeniach transnarodowych – narracje dzieci  
oraz opowieści o dzieciach żyjących transnarodowo*

## Starting Point and Main Objectives

Transnational families are a significant social phenomenon. In the German-Polish research project DoDzi, we investigated how children in Poland perceive and evaluate transnational family life. In the follow-up project TraNa, we turn to the transmission of knowledge and images about foreign countries within these families and how children position themselves in national and global contexts.



The German-Polish interdisciplinary project TraNa examines these issues from sociological and literary perspectives. The sociological part explores the self-positioning of children from transnational families through interviews and mapping tools. The literary part studies transnational families in children's books, using narrative techniques to examine the representation of transnational spaces and the self-positioning of child characters.

## Data Basis

### Sociology:

Forty children will be interviewed – 20 each in the east and west of Poland. The interviews consist of three phases: a warm-up, a biographical interview, and a mapping-based interview.

### Literary science:

A preparatory analysis was conducted of a total of 35 books from the current Polish book market for children and young adults (published between 1993 and 2023) that feature emigration from Poland.



# TraNa



### Project Homepage

<https://www.uni-due.de/biwi/trana/>

## Perspective: Sociology

**Scientifically**, the project focuses on...

- Socialization in transnational families: How does growing up transnationally shape children's lives and personal relations?
- Knowledge production about countries abroad: How do children develop knowledge and images about abroad, their parents' destination countries, and about migration?
- Self-positioning: How do children position themselves in national, European, and global spaces?
- Methodological innovation: Developing mapping tools to investigate transnational lifeworlds and children's self-positioning in Poland, Europe, and the world.

**Publicly**, the research highlights how transnational experiences can be used as resources to better understand and support children in national and global contexts.

## Perspective: Literary Science

**Scientifically**, the project focuses on...

- Socialization in transnational families: How are transnational families represented in children's books?
- Knowledge production about countries abroad: How are foreign countries visualized in children's literature? Which images about places abroad do books provide?
- Positioning of children: How is the child character positioned in national, European, and global spaces?
- Narrative techniques: The study investigates the literary techniques used to portray transnationality and foreign spaces.

**Publicly**, the research team develops didactic material for teachers to introduce the highly relevant topic of transnational life appropriately in the school context.

## Project Team

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