

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON BORDERS

Borders In Flux and Border Temporalities In and Beyond Europe

DECEMBER 15 - 16,
2022

UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBOURG
CAMPUS BELVAL
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Organisers and Partners

Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH)

The C²DH is the University of Luxembourg's third interdisciplinary research centre, focusing on high-quality research, analysis, and public dissemination in the field of contemporary Luxembourgish and European history. The centre particularly focuses on the use of digital methods and tools for innovative historical research and serves as a catalyst for creative scholarship and hands-on approaches to new forms of public dissemination and societal engagement with history in Luxembourg.

Machteld Venken, Professor for Contemporary Transnational History and Head of Interregional Working Group 'Border Temporalities' within the UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Johanna Jaschik, Doctoral Researcher in Historical Transformation Research and Border Studies

Christoph Brüll, Assistant Professor in Transnational Political and Social History of Western Europe and Head of Interregional Working Group 'Border Temporalities' within the UniGR-Center for Border Studies



Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network (TEIN)

The Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network (TEIN), formed in 2010, now brings together 16 partners as well as 2 associated partners from 9 border regions in Europe. Its unique feature is that it consists of universities, research institutes and training centres, which are dedicated to the practical business of cross-border cooperation in Europe. Their work involves cross-border training, managing cross-border projects, providing mentoring for cross-border actors, and researching on cross-border issues. In this respect, TEIN's objective is to build capacity in cross-border contexts to strengthen European integration, facilitating cross-border cooperation and providing practical solutions to transfrontier issues.

Anne Thevenet, Deputy Director of Euro-Institut / TEIN

Birte Wassenberg, Professor for Contemporary History at the Institute for Political Studies (IEP) of the University of Strasbourg and TEIN member



Borders in Globalization (BiG)

Borders in Globalization (BiG) is an international research network connecting research to policy. Their goal is to build excellence in the knowledge of borders and advance border management in Canada and worldwide.

Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, Professor in Border Studies at the University of Victoria, Canada, and Director of Borders in Globalization (BiG) Research Programme



Social Sciences and Humanities
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UniGR-Center for Border Studies

The UniGR-Center for Border Studies is an Interdisciplinary Center of Expertise of the University of the Greater Region (UniGR) and combines the expertise of the border researchers of its partner universities. It has been shaping the Greater Region since 2014 and works across borders and border spaces in Europe and beyond. The involved border researchers investigate socioeconomic and sociocultural issues and provide practice-oriented solutions for challenges in border regions.

Christian Wille, Senior Researcher in Cultural Border Studies and Head of the UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Andrea Wurm, Graduate Translator and Special Assignments Teacher at Saarland University and member of the UniGR-Center for Border Studies



Our Keynote Speakers



Carolin Leutloff-Grandits, PD Dr. phil., is a social anthropologist and works as a senior researcher at the interdisciplinary Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION at the European University Viadrina. Her research interests include migration, borders, temporality, social security, and family. She is particularly concerned with the countries of the former Yugoslavia and with Germany.

Abstract

The mutability of borders represents a central point of reference in the analysis of border formations. Nevertheless, systematic analyses of border temporalities encompassing different time dimensions are rather rare. When the temporality of borders is discussed, it is usually done retrospectively. Accordingly, historical processes of change are examined or the intrinsic

temporality of border practices such as migratory movements or waiting is analyzed. This primarily historical perspective on borders must be expanded to include a look at the future of borders. While border practices and border discourses per se are inscribed with a future orientation, insofar as they performatively design borders, various forms of explicit border-future processing can also be identified. Borders thus not only have a past but also a future, which is actively imagined and guides corresponding practices as well as discourses. The imagination of border futures thus has clear effects on the present shaping of demarcations.

In our contribution, we use the example of the border management agency Frontex to explicate a conceptual proposal to think the dimensions of border work and future work more strongly together. By analyzing Frontex's risk and scenario analyses for the European external borders, we trace the powerful intertwining of border and future imaginaries. We show that and with which future scenarios Frontex works and which consequences for the border this kind of future imagination suggests. Our contribution concludes with a plea for an object-adequate, multitemporal analysis of borders.

12.30 Closing Words

12.45 End of Conference

Abstract

Since the late 19th century, foreigners moving to Luxembourg have been required to declare their residency at the local municipality upon arrival. New digital technologies have made it possible to analyze the wealth of information contained in arrival declaration forms. This article offers a first digital analysis of a selection of these sources for the municipalities of Dudelange and Differdange in the mid-1920s. This was a pivotal period during which migratory flows to the Minett region, one of Europe's most dynamic industrial regions characterized by its ironmines and steelworks, were increasing and diversifying. Using a digital hermeneutic approach, the article evaluates the choices, opportunities and difficulties involved in using these sources within the virtual environment nodegoat. It presents insights gained by visualizing migration paths and settlement patterns: differences in mobility between Italian and German (un)married migrants, the case of the owner of a café and hostel (café-pension) in Dudelange who hosted Italian migrants from his place of birth, and the fact that social networks among family members and friends were also active on the road, with family members waiting for each other in the French transit town of Trieux. We end our article by identifying avenues for further research.

Dominik Gerst, M.A. is research associate at the working unit "Communication in Institutions and Organizations" at the Institute of Communication Studies, University of Duisburg Essen (Germany) as well as associate member of the Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION. He is currently interested in border methodologies, sociology of knowledge, discourse, and practice theories.

Keynote Title: **Of being stuck or moving on: border temporalities along the EU's external border in the Western Balkans**

Geopolitical borders have multiple temporal dimensions: Not only do they change over time, they also affect the perception of time of those who live along the border or attempt to cross it. Borders often establish a relational temporal taxonomy according to which those who live across the border are seen as more or less advanced or backward. In their function of control, the temporal dimension of borders is even more obvious: For those trying to cross them, the border can stop, slow down, or even speed up their movements, or keep them in a circular motion. This may simultaneously also affect the self-perception of border crossers and those living in the region.

Using the case study of the EU external border between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, this lecture will address the different temporal dimensions of borders and their effects on the self-perceptions of migrants and local inhabitants in an entangled perspective. I argue that it is not only migrants who get stranded due to the securitization of the border and often develop a sense of living in a loop or in a liminal timespace. Also, parts of the local population feel stuck, which is related to the impossibility to envision a future, to move forward in life. The relation of feeling stuck in life and being able to move is however not clear-cut. For some local inhabitants, the feeling of being stuck is strengthened by the movements of others leaving or crossing the region, a state which became symptomatic for the Western Balkan border regions, while some migrants who are stopped at the borders and who are physically stuck do not lose their hope but continue to envision a future somewhere else.

Dr Alena Pfoser is Senior Lecturer in Communication and Media Studies at Loughborough University, UK. Her main areas of expertise include memory in contested settings, heritage and tourism industries, borders and borderlands, and qualitative and arts-based methods. For her doctoral and postdoctoral projects, she conducted research on the Russian-Estonian borderland, exploring the interrelations and tensions between official and vernacular memories in two border towns as well as questions of spatial peripheralisation. Her current project “Tourism as Memory-Making” (PI, 2019–2022), funded by a UK ESRC New Investigator Grant, examines Russian tourism to post-Soviet cities.



Keynote Title: Remembering as Bordering: Using Memory Studies to Understand Border Temporalities

Over the past decades the field of border studies has shown substantial interest in questions of collective memory, examining for example the role of memory and monumental politics in nation-building processes, memories of forced migration, the relation between official and vernacular memories in borderlands, and processes of historical reconciliation. Despite this growing body of research, memory studies and border studies have developed largely separately from each other, and dialogue between the two fields has been limited. As a consequence, while memory is empirically explored, it tends to be underconceptualised, and opportunities for conceptual dialogue are missed. In my talk I make an attempt of bringing the two fields into conversation and outlining how memory helps us to conceptualise border temporality based on three shifts: firstly, a shift from the linear passing of time that has been the centre of evolutionary studies of borders to memory as “past presencing”

of refugees into a space outside of society and “civilization”.

Arrival Declaration Forms. A New Gateway for Mapping Migration to Luxembourg

Machteld Venken, Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History, University of Luxembourg (and Arnaud Sauer, Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History, University of Luxembourg)

Machteld Venken is a Professor of Contemporary Transnational History at the Centre for Contemporary and Digital History of the University of Luxembourg. She holds MA degrees in Slavic Studies from the Catholic University in Leuven (Belgium) and in European Studies from the Jagiellonian University in Kraków (Poland), as well as a PhD in History from the Catholic University in Leuven (Belgium) and an accreditation to supervise research in Modern and Contemporary History from the University of Vienna (Austria). She is the author of the monographs *Straddling the Iron Curtain? Immigrants, Immigrant Organisations, War Memories* (Frankfurt am Main, 2011) and *Peripheries at the Centre: Borderland Schooling in Interwar Europe* (New York, 2021).

Zuflucht (2012), a critical history of Czechoslovak refugee policy in the 1930s. He is the principal investigator of the ERC Consolidator project “Unlikely refuge? Refugees and citizens in East-Central Europe in the 20th century”. Currently, he finishes a book manuscript about the no man’s land for refugees and denationalization in East-Central Europe at the end of the 1930s.

Abstract

The paper examines the history of the no man’s land for refugees on the borders of East-Central Europe at the end of the 1930s. On many spots alongside the shifting borders of East-Central Europe, groups of Jewish refugees were confined to spaces between border guards and often “camped” in fields or provisional shelters. I argue that this no man’s land, so far not analyzed comparatively and poorly understood, holds important insights for the connections between forced migration, citizenship, and space.

The appearance of the no man’s land was an unplanned consequence of the interplay between expulsions and border closures instituted by nation states. In this paper, I will scrutinize how these unintended stateless spaces were created through the movement of refugees within the border zones. Building on approaches from border studies, anthropology, and sociology, I will analyze testimonies and other sources to reconstruct the spatial and temporal facets of these border experiences and to examine the perceptions, emotions and interpretations triggered by interaction with such unfamiliar environment. Walking the border created meanings: Reading the violence in the border spaces as rites of passage will make it possible to probe not only the physical, but also the symbolical exclusion

(Macdonald 2013), focusing on how the past is experienced, interpreted and produced the present. Secondly, a movement from time in singular to the study of multiple and intersecting temporalities, building on multi- and interscalar perspectives in memory studies. Thirdly, a shift from the tracing of historical change to considerations of memory as bordering, a process that naturalises borders and legitimises their fortification and surveillance. Overall, I argue that a stronger crossfertilisation between the two fields has the double advantage of bringing questions on temporality more centrally into border research and helping us to better understand the complexity of border time.



Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly is a Professor of Public Administration, and the director of Borders in Globalization (BiG) and 21st century borders research projects at the University of Victoria, Canada. His research interests are comparative border and migration studies, policy governance as well as policy relevant research. He has published over 100 articles and book sections, and 12 books/sections of academic journals.

Keynote Title: **Migration, Borders and Temporality**

How does temporality when applied to issues of bordering and mobility suggest a fundamental transformation of what borders are? Terrestrial boundary lines in political theory and border studies primarily discuss

spatial issues. However, temporality fundamentally transforms the spatiality of border policies and their governance. What does it mean for border and migration policies?

Programme

Thursday, 15 December

09.00 Arrival and small breakfast

09.30 Welcome

09.45 Keynote: **Of being stuck or moving on: border temporalities along the EU's external border in the Western Balkans**

Carolin Leutloff-Grandits, European University Viadrina

Chair: Birte Wassenberg, University of Strasbourg and TEIN (Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network)

10.30 Coffee Break

10.45 **Panel 1: Borders and the Elasticity of Time**

Chair: Birte Wassenberg, University of Strasbourg and TEIN (Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network)

Discussant: David Newman, Ben-Gurion University in the Negev in Israel

By moving across the border, these migrants are confronted not only with difference but with disparate developments. To put it more pointedly, migrants must cope with divergences, i.e., with the fact that economic and socio-cultural conditions within their new socio-spatial universe, the cross-border region, have evolved in different directions. The paper argues that the analysis of migrants' accounts of divergences is elucidating with respect not only to individual identity processes but also to the conception and everyday construction of cross border communities. Their "moving stories" show that experiences of divergence can refer to encompassing socio-political entities that do not depend on national categories. The study thus also sheds light on the fact that borderland research by focusing on national difference and related conceptions of cross-border mobility and exchange tends to ignore borderlanders' notions of (regional) unity and ensuing claims for convergence.

The Making of the No Man's Land. Forced migration, border violence and spatial statelessness in East-Central Europe at the end of the 1930s

Michal Frankl, Masaryk Institute and Archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences

Michal Frankl is a senior researcher at the Masaryk Institute and Archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences. He is the author of „*Prag ist nunmehr antisemitisch*“ (2011), a history of Czech antisemitism at the end of the 19th century and together with Miloslav Szabó of *Budování státu bez antisemitismu?* (Building of a State With No Antisemitism?, 2015), an analysis of the role of antisemitism in the transition from the Habsburg Empire to the Czechoslovak nation state. With Kateřina Čapková, he wrote *Unsichere*

on cultural identity and inter-ethnic relations in Northern Benin. She expanded her interest to issues of spatial mobility and rural change in the West African Sahel, especially Niger. Currently, she is engaged in research on border issues in the Greater Region SaarLorLux. In this domain, she directed a research project on cross-border residential mobility that was dedicated to the analysis of individual and familial migration narratives. A further field of interest is migration to Luxembourg from Lusophone countries.

Abstract

The paper deals with border crossing and the experience of “temporal otherness” in a Western European border region, namely with the experiences of residential migrants who move their home from Luxembourg to the German side of the river Moselle. Research on this kind of temporal borders largely concentrates on a particular relation that implies a unidirectional perspective: the West (or Europe) creating its underdeveloped (or under-Europeanized) other and coping with this other by controlling and limiting border crossing, which in turn results in maintaining and strengthening the idea of the other’s temporal remoteness or backwardness. Research in the Luxembourg-German border region offers a complement to this perspective in as much as it encounters migrants who move, so to speak, in the opposite temporal direction. Their residential move does not come along with a striving for modernity and higher development, and many of them recognize and come to appreciate certain forms of “being behind” in their new place of residence.

War Borders: Spatial and Temporal Impact of the Shifting Border between Ukraine and its Russia-Occupied Territories

Lidia Kuzemska, Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin

Dr Lidia Kuzemska is a sociologist with a keen interdisciplinary interest in forced migration, internal displacement, borders and bordering, citizenship, and migration policy. She is currently a postdoctoral Prisma Ukraïna Fellow 2022/23 at the Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin. Lidia received her PhD in 2022 from Lancaster University for a thesis entitled: ‘Don’t Be Afraid of Our Citizens: Internally Displaced Persons Encounter Bordering and Othering in Ukraine’. Lidia’s work aims to explore how everyday bordering and othering processes affect migrants, whose citizenship rights are disrupted by the forced displacements. In her research, she brings together insights from qualitative and quantitative data, policy analysis and field observations.

Abstract

How does the war affect established cross-border flows? My paper will demonstrate that it simultaneously decreases/ blocks some of them, but also creates new ones that aim to defy time and space constraints created by the war. I will look at the mobility patterns of civilians across and around the combat zone in Ukraine between its government-controlled territories and areas in the South-East of the country, occupied by Russia since February 2022. War borders evolve with the changing political and military situation, when travellers on the ground navigate the shifting security, political, socio-economic circumstances while trying to maintain cross-border social networks disrupted by the war.

War border exists in Ukraine since 2014, when the political and military conflict between Ukraine and Russia resulted in the establishment of a heavily militarized ‘contact line’ between Ukraine and its temporary occupied territories of Donbas and Crimea. Despite increasing multi-faced bordering between the opposing sides, the cross-border travels across the ‘contact line’ grew as the conflict situation ‘froze’ between 2016 and 2021. Until 2020, up to 13mln people crossed the contact line per year. The Covid-19 pandemic plummeted the number of crossings between Ukraine and the occupied territories of Donbas by 97 per cent due to sanitary restrictions, however, cross-border movement continued as people were making a detour via Russia to reach the ‘other side’ of the border.

Since February 2022, the war border changed. Ukraine closed its borders with Russia and ceased the crossings with the occupied territories of Donbas and Crimea. However, travellers found new routes and ways to continue cross-border movement either through the highly dangerous ‘humanitarian corridors’ between the fighting sides or making time-consuming and distant detours (e.g. the occupied territories-Russia-Belarus-the Baltic states-Poland-Ukraine and vice versa, or through Russia-Georgia-Turkey-EU-Ukraine). A small-distance and short trip in peace time within the Ukrainian territory now requires up to a week of travel across multiple countries. Hence, the war border in Ukraine has not only impacted patterns of (im)mobility in terms of time and space, but also created new regional transborder flows.

09.00 Arrival and Small Breakfast

09.30 Keynote: Migration, Borders and Temporality

Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, University of Victoria, Canada and Borders in Globalization

Chair: Anne Thevenet, TEIN (Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network)

10.15 Coffee Break

10.45 Panel 4: Approaches to Border Temporalities

Chair: Christian Wille, University of Luxembourg and UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Discussant: Carolin Leutloff-Grandits, European University Viadrina

Border crossing and “temporal otherness” in the Greater Region SaarLorLux. Residential migrants’ experiences of divergence

Elisabeth Boesen, University of Luxembourg and UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Elisabeth Boesen is a senior researcher at the University of Luxembourg Institute for History. Prior to this, she worked at the Centre for Modern Oriental Studies (Berlin), at Bayreuth University, the Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich and the Free University of Berlin. She holds a PhD in cultural and social anthropology from Bayreuth University, her thesis being

These phenomena are examined from the point of view of Global History. Firstly, the projection of bordering outside the Iberian Peninsula is a globalizing process that paved the way for the dissemination of architectures, language, and lifeways. Secondly, Global History also examines interconnections and mutual influences, and how local communities can be affected by global processes. Consequently, political borders trigger different kinds of flows in local and global contexts, paving the way for interdependencies and cultural transfers that transcend territorial limits.

Consequently, we propose a characterization of these exchanges from an international and transnational perspective, by focusing on the comparison and connectivity between case studies that share common historical circumstances. The sharing of knowledge and scientific cooperation appears, in this context, as an activity that will enrich the enhancement of cultural assets in both sides of the Atlantic and in the Pacific Ocean. This approach aims to break with the traditional depiction of these territories as uncommunicated places, by providing a holistic view on heritage focused on Archaeology, History, Anthropology, and Historical Linguistics. The evaluation and analysis of the historical value of these landscapes is then a steppingstone for improving sustainable local development, cultural routes, and networks, as well as research oriented toward protection, preservation, and dissemination of heritage assets.

18.45 Closing of Day One

19.30 Dinner for Participants

Portuguese Border and its ‘micro-temporalities’: advances, retreats, and hesitations in the exercise of control

Mafalda Carapeto, University of Lisbon

Mafalda Carapeto is a PhD student in Anthropology at the DANT program, in the University of Lisbon, specializing in Anthropology of Ethnicity and Politics. Her doctoral proposal aims to study the way in which, in contemporary times, borders and mobility through them are governed, namely what mechanisms and devices are activated at each moment to allow, or not, access to the national territory.

Abstract

This communication addresses Portuguese border regime by looking into the relationship dynamics between border guards and foreign citizens. Through the lens of temporality, I reflect on how the presence or absence of certain documents, presented by these citizens, function as control devices (Foucault, 1994 [1976], 2003 [1977]) that accelerate, stop, or deny the entry in Schengen. I advocate a contingent and procedural view of border control, since documents mark, periodize and shape life courses (Anderson, 2020: 56), they are not just a fixed status, but a moment in the processes of agency and power (Heyman, 2020: 231).

The documents do not seem to be definitive and much less finite. They are not definitive as they depend on each guard’s gaze to the various details that these documents incorporate. These details can become more or less visible, producing a sequential order in terms of the way they are evaluated. Nor are they finite, as they reveal the unpredictability of the border, as well as the way foreign citizens potentially embody uncertainty, providing themselves with documentary evidence, in response to this unpredictability.

The function of documents as power devices allows the continuous production of indifference to practices and their arbitrary results (Gupta, 2012), due not only to the “legislative administrative jungle” (Fassin, 2014), internal issues such as infrastructure and lack of human resources, as well as the absence of limits the guards place to their own autonomy. Documents are interpretive, and transformable once they are used to develop a story about the traveler. Based on an eleven-month ethnographic fieldwork, centered on the daily life of the guards of The Foreigners and Borders Office, at Humberto Delgado Airport, in Lisbon, I am to analyze through these brief encounters (some more than others), the “micro-temporalities” produced by state bureaucracies.

The timeless island. The impact of EU and national legislation and procedures on refugees’ temporalities in Lesbos

Luca Daminelli, University of Genoa (and Marcella Cometti, University of Ferrara)

Luca Daminelli is a PhD candidate in Migration and Intercultural Processes at the University of Genoa. He holds a master’s degree in Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology. His doctoral research is focusing on the temporality of migration, weaponisation of time and on the dimension of waiting, assumed as central to the experience of migrant research interests include Migration Studies, Border Studies, Time and Migration.

Pedro Albuquerque (Lisbon, 1978) is in the present-day a researcher in the University of Seville and other Portuguese institutions (Uniarq and Centre of Global Studies/ Aberta University). His PhD thesis was focused on a comparative study of Tartessos from an archaeological and literary point of view. He is author of several papers of cross-cutting research about the Iberian Iron Age Archaeology, the depiction of ancient Iberian communities in Classical and Near Eastern literature, and in the 16th century Historiography. He is currently working on the Iron Age and Roman settlement of the Lower Guadiana Valley (eighth century BC to first century AD) in the context of a project dedicated to the enhancement of the archaeological heritage in the Luso-Spanish frontier. His research interests also focus on the Cartography, the construction of borderlands from the Iron Age to the present-day and the global history of borderlands. He is also researcher in several international projects, both in Portugal and Spain.

Abstract

The Portuguese-Spanish border, delimited at the end of the 13th century, is the oldest frontier between states. Two centuries later, Portuguese and Spanish signed several treaties that delimited their territories overseas, particularly in the Pacific Ocean and South America, while in the Iberian Peninsula limits were still negotiated. These negotiations affected, consequently, the configuration of landscapes in those territories. The surveillance and maintenance of sovereignties’ limits lead, however, to interactions that generated unique cultural features, as well as shared identities and heritage assets (both tangible and intangible).

has become even less perfect during the intervening period. The creation of the Separation barrier / Wall between Israel and the West Bank deviates only slightly from the Green Line but is not recognised as being the basis for any future border. Most people who have grown up in the last fifty years are largely unaware of where the Green Line is, but all are convinced that it is the only border which can be implemented as part of a future peace agreement (which, at the moment of writing, is little more than a pipe dream).

This paper is divided into two parts. The first part develops the theme of the spatial temporality of borders and the ways in which they become geopolitically sacrosanct in a relatively short period of time. The second part focuses on the Green Line case study, tracing the development of the Green Line over time, and the way it is imprinted upon the minds of new generations of children through the teaching of history, geography and political science narratives – as well as the use of maps in school atlases. The concept of the Green Line is also used by politicians and diplomats, regardless of its artificiality, to promote specific political objectives, thus leaving this transient border imprinted upon the minds of all observers of the Israel-Palestine arena, and making it even more difficult to negotiate over a future border which would be more appropriate for both peoples.

Bordering Iberia, Globalizing Borders: Topics for the Enhancement of a Transnational Heritage

Pedro Albuquerque, University of Seville, Uniarq and Centre of Global Studies, Aberta University (and Francisco José García Fernández, University of Seville).

Abstract

Since the summer of 2015, the island of Lesbos in Greece has been the front stage of the so-called “refugees’ crisis” and one of the places where the EU policies for migration control have been tested and implemented. Different EU and national laws, regulations and guidelines have had a direct impact on the refugee population arriving on the island. The “hotspot approach”, the “EU – Turkey statement” of March 2016, the Greek law on international protection (4636/2019), the new “European Pact on Migration and Asylum” directly affect the possibility to continue the journey through Europe and impose on people different temporalities – related to the asylum procedure – totally out of their control. Until early 2020, the procedure entailed very long waiting times with serious repercussions on refugees’ lives on the hotspot-island, notorious for the poor living conditions inside the Moria camp. From February 2020, the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic and the pushback practices implemented by Greek authorities led to a drastic reduction in arrivals; then, the Moria fire of September 2020 caused the displacement of thousands of people from Lesbos to the mainland. The decrease in residents allowed for a 'better efficiency' and produced an acceleration of the asylum procedure, and consequently led to a compression of refugees' rights, who often start their procedure without the necessary awareness. Furthermore, the Greek decision to consider Turkey a 'safe country' for people from Afghanistan, Syria, Bangladesh, Somalia and Pakistan, produced a situation of juridical and existential limbo. As Turkey is not allowing re-admissions on its territory since 2020, thousands of people persist for long periods without access to reception and protection.

The authors resided in Lesvos during spring and summer 2022 to conduct their research; the intersection of the study of legislation and its implementation (Marcella Cometti) with the ethnographic material collected on the field (Luca Daminelli) allows to understand the direct impact of asylum procedures on refugees' lives.

12.30 Lunch Break and **Poster Session of Doctoral Researchers**

Energy Borderlands in Flux: The Example of the SaarLorLux Region

Alexandra Lampke, Saarland University and UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Alexandra Lampke studied German-French Studies: Cross-border Communication and Cooperation (B.A.) at Saarland University and the Université de Lorraine (Metz) as well as European Studies/Relations internationales et langues (M.A.) with a focus on project management at Passau University and the Université de Strasbourg-ITIRI. Since May 2021, she works as a research assistant in the Department of Social-Scientific European Studies within the Working Group European Studies | Focus Western Europe and Border Regions at Saarland University. In her PhD-project, she researches energy transitions of border-regional energy spaces using the example of the SaarLorLux border region.

But these artificial constructs become imprinted on the cartographic and political images of future generations in a relatively short period of time, regardless of what they may be taught as part of history. Children and young adults are normally socialised into perceiving the political landscape within which they grow up as constituting the “natural” geopolitical order and, as such, are prepared to defend any incursion beyond the border, and to demand the maintenance of what they perceive to be the geopolitical status quo. This can take place within one to two short generations of the borders being demarcated. Post World War I Central and eastern Europe is full of borders which, once demarcated, maintained their position through a long period of political change, down to the break up of the Soviet Union. While the function of the borders may have changed over time (from open to closed to sealed and back again) as a result of political change, their geographical location has remained much the same.

The Green Line border separating Israel and the West Bank is a good example of the way in which borders become sacrosanct in such a short space of time. Delineated for the first time in the aftermath of Israel's war of independence (the Palestinian Naqba) in 1948, the Green Line has remained, until today, the border separating Israel from the West Bank, even though Israel has occupied and controlled this later territory since the Six Day War in 1967 – a period of over fifty years, almost three times as long as the period separating the 1948 and 1967 Wars. Despite the major geopolitical changes which have taken place in and around the Green Line border since 1967 (the construction of roads, settlements, the growth of both Israeli and Palestinian populations etc.), this remains the perceived “default” boundary for the implementation of a Two State solution. The Green Line border was far from perfect at the time of its demarcation and

ever-present rearticulation of physical divisions by walls and fences and related symbolism. In these borderlands, not only popular storytelling about the conflicts survives, but also a multiplicity of practices associated with them, turning the landscape ghostlike and making supposedly past conflicts continue to haunt the everyday life of people living there.

Borders in Time and Space: At What Stage do Borders become Sacrosanct?

David Newman, Ben-Gurion University in the Negev in Israel

Professor **David Newman** holds the Chair of Geopolitics in the Department of Politics and Government at Ben-Gurion University in the Negev in Israel. Formerly Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at BGU, Newman was the chief editor of the international journal *Geopolitics* from 1998–2014. His research and publications focus on the territorial dimensions of ethnic conflict and the changing roles and functions of borders in the contemporary world. His work reflects the theoretical dimensions of border studies, with a particular focus on the Israel-Palestine arena.

Abstract

Borders are the product of social and political decision making. The demarcation of borders between States are either negotiated bilaterally between neighbouring spatial entities, or are imposed upon the landscape by a victorious, or stronger, political entity, often as a result of military conquest. History is replete with examples of borders being superimposed upon a landscape where no border previously existed, thus changing the nature of local and regional power relations.

Abstract

In recent years, global change has become a central topic with far-reaching political, economic, and cultural implications, in addition to ecological effects. One important component are upheavals in energy production and energy supply, associated with a fundamental transition towards low-carbon energy. In the course of this transition, different energy policies and development paths of energy sources can be traced, for example in the countries Germany, France, and Luxembourg – hence also in the SaarLorLux region. External factors can either consolidate them or set them in motion. As a result, (new) cross-border experiences and negotiation processes regularly take place, constituting specific border discourses on energy, so-called *energy borderlands*. Since the reactor catastrophe in Japan (2011) – at the latest – nuclear power has become a bone of contention in energy policy between Germany and Luxembourg as opponents, and France as proponent of nuclear power. In recent months, nuclear power and gas have once again been brought into the political spotlight in the wake of the new EU taxonomy regulation (2022) and have since been classified as ‘green’ forms of energy. Also, the war in Ukraine currently causes upheavals in the energy sector. In order to avoid energy imports from Russia in the future, the question arises – especially in Germany – which energy source should replace gas. A temporary return to fossil energies as a transitional technology is not fundamentally ruled out. Both circumstances are triggering (new) processes of negotiation around these forms of energy, consequently (re)igniting cross-border discourses. The paper discusses the implications of these two upheaving examples in the SaarLorLux region, the resulting *energy borderlands*, and aims to shed light on their spatial as well as their temporal dimensions.

Borders in Northern Quebec’s “Wilderness”. From Colonial Dividing Lines to Postcolonial Links

Isis Luxenburger, Saarland University and UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Isis Luxenburger, M.A., is working at the Chair of North American Literary and Cultural Studies at Saarland University and was a doctoral researcher in the International Research Training Group “Diversity. Mediating Difference in Transcultural Spaces” at Saarland University, in cooperation with the University of Trier and the University of Montreal (2019–2022). Since 2020, she has taught courses on industrial film, industrial aesthetics, and industrial culture at Saarland University. Her research interests include the cultural studies of (industrial) films and, in general, investigating research subjects rooted in other disciplines – especially Film Studies, Border Studies, Computer Gaming Studies and Translation Studies – from a Cultural Studies perspective. She is currently working on her interdisciplinary dissertation project on the mediation of industrial culture in films and documentaries in the Canadian province of Quebec and the Greater Region SaarLorLux.

Abstract

To render accessible an iron ore deposit, a railroad was constructed through the Indigenous hunting territory of the Innu and Naskapi peoples in the Canadian provinces of Quebec and Labrador in the 1950s. The Quebec, North Shore & Labrador Railway (QNS&L) linked the nascent mining town of Schefferville, located at the border between the two provinces, to the harbour town of Seven-Islands. In the perception of the mining company, their railroad

within the field of border studies, documented by several publications in high-ranking journals and publishing houses in the field. She has been preoccupied with conflict resolutions and has done ethnographic studies in the border regions in the former Yugoslavia, including Istria, Neum-Neretva and the Vukovar area in Slavonia. More recently her contributions in the field of border studies and conflict-resolution include research on Northern Ireland and multiple expressions of borderlands resilience more broadly. She also works in projects studying how borders and identity express in European civil society mobilization as well as among cross-border commuters in the Danish-German border region.

Abstract

The paper takes as its point of departure the book *The Troubles in Ballybogoin* from 2003 where the American anthropologist William F. Kelleher examined ethnographically the everyday practice of borderlands inhabitants in Northern Ireland; what they do, who they interact with and where they move. He found that these social practices were over-determined by the social memory (Assmann 2003) of division and political identity narrating around two periods of time: the Troubles and the Island’s British Imperial Past. In dialogue with Kelleher, thus also relying on Kelleher’s use of de Certeau’s understanding of spatial cultural practices (1985), and with the inclusion of Sarah Green’s seminal work on lines, traces, and tidemarks (2018), I revisit the Irish borderland twenty years after Kelleher and more than twenty years after the Good Friday Agreement. I show how these borderlands are still deeply influenced by the memory of conflicts dividing populations, places, and artifacts. The social memory informing everyday practice have today been collectively stabilized, also materially in the landscape as well as in the cityscapes with an

16.00 Coffee Break

16.30 Keynote: **Remembering as Bordering: Using Memory Studies to Understand Border Temporalities**

Alena Pfoser, Loughborough University, United Kingdom

Chair: Andrea Wurm, Saarland University and UniGR-Center for Border Studies

17.15 **Panel 3: Remembering as Bordering**

Chair: Andrea Wurm, Saarland University and UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Discussant: Alena Pfoser, Loughborough University, United Kingdom

Revisiting Ballybogoin – Lines, Traces and Tidemarks in the Irish Borderlands

Dorte Jagetic Andersen, Centre for Border Region Studies at the University of Southern Denmark

Dr. Dorte Jagetic Andersen is senior researcher in the Centre for Border Region Studies at the University of Southern Denmark, Department of Political Science with a background in European Ethnology and European Continental Philosophy. Her main research interest concerns identity-formation in areas influenced by the presence of geopolitically drawn borders, and she has published extensively and made major theoretical and empirical contributions

civilized the wild North by pushing a frontier to the end of the line. However, the QNS&L also acted as a dividing line cutting off paths and waterways in the hunting and trapping territory it crossed. Along with the introduction of this new border, the creation of the mine also entailed the creation of First Nation reserves in and around Schefferville. The Indigenous population was forced to settle and kept from roaming free on their land. In addition, the colonial practices of “civilization” by forced assimilation introduced further (e.g. linguistic and religious) borders and fueled the alienation of the Indigenous Peoples from their own culture. Since its construction, the QNS&L has attracted cameramen and filmmakers and many films on the train, the railroad and the town of Schefferville were made: i.a. ROAD OF IRON (1955), TI-JEAN IN THE LAND OF IRON (1958), LE DERNIER GLACIER (1984), LES ENFANTS DE SCHEFFERVILLE (1996), TSHIUETIN (2016), TRAIN DU GRAND NORD (2019) and NOUVEAU QUEBEC (2021). Over the years, a shift from colonial towards Indigenous perspectives can be observed. Furthermore, the changing nature of the borders introduced into the nature of the North can be investigated through these films. This paper will explore their development, including the transformation of the QNS&L from a colonial dividing line and means of oppression into a postcolonial link and symbol of Indigenous resistance.

Fun Fairs in Border Areas – A National, Transregional and Transnational History of the “Schueberfouer”

Véronique Faber, Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History, University of Luxembourg

Véronique Faber holds an M. Phil. in Cultural and Social Anthropology (KSA) and African Studies from the University of Vienna and a Higher Diploma in Arts Administration from University College Dublin. She is now a PhD candidate at the Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C2DH) at the University of Luxembourg. Her topic is the intertwining of national, transregional and transnational of the Luxembourg fair "Schueberfouer", which is held annually in late summer, and how this intertwining has changed over time.

Abstract

The research project "Transnational popular culture – Europe in the long 1960s", which is supported by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the National Research Fund (FNR, Luxembourg), aims to contribute to a systematic and multi-perspective historiography of European cultural transfers in a transnational perspective by investigating cross-thematic areas of tension in pop culture in the long 1960s.

One of the project's case studies examines "Fun fairs in border areas – a national, transregional and transnational history of the Schueberfouer" (working title) and is the topic of my PhD thesis. This thesis investigates the relevance of a Luxembourg fun fair, as an element of popular entertainment culture, for national identification processes, transregional and -national relations, and their development over time by analyzing archived documents, different types of materials, newspaper articles, oral history interviews as well as participant observation. The "Schueberfouer" creates a heterotopic space that outwardly breaks up and redefines social and spatial borders for a set timeframe and thus produces new practices that reinforce identification processes as well as foster cross-border cooperation.

Abstract

Against the backdrop of the increasing share of cross-border commuting women as well as certain cross-border childcare arrangements, more and more young children in the Saar-Lor-Lux region are commuting across the border on a daily basis to access early childhood education and care services in neighbouring countries. The diverse forms of such cross-border childcare arrangements (CBCAs) reflect the specific mobility and work patterns of heterogeneous commuting parents as well as the problems, opportunities and pathways they face in the Saar-Lor-Lux border region and its respective (trans-)national and regional welfare systems (Bollig et al 2022). However, the dynamics of these CBCAs seem to emerge especially from the intertwining of childhood-related aspirations and imaginaries and everyday border experiences (Wille & Nienaber 2020) related to early childhood education and care. In this respect, CBCAs are not only to be seen as particular sites of cross-border welfare production and the everyday shaping of inherently heterogeneous borderlands. They are also the arenas in which borders, and parental childhood projects intersect and a particular processual subjectification of 'borderland parents' takes place. In our presentation, we will elaborate on how these childhood-related border experiences and practices change over time in certain types of CBCAs and analyze this as a de-/rebordering of familial childhood projects that oscillate between nation and region. For this, we draw on a practice-analytical and multi-perspective understanding of borders (Rumford 2012), that not only temporalizes them as socio-material events, but also emphasizes their complex transformation in time. The empirical contribution is based on qualitative interviews we conducted with border-commuting parents, mainly mothers, in 2019–2021, which we analyzed using the grounded theory method.

Recently, as it happened in the 1920s, the Gulf of Finland Coast Guard District still uncovers organized criminal groups engaged in an international human trafficking as well as liqueur *smuggling* as it happened in the 1920s and early 1930s. Currently the border crossing points of the Russian-Finnish border, such as *Torfyanovka* (Leningrad region), and *Vyartsilya* (Republic of Karelia) are actively used for mass border crossings by the means of using forged medical doctors' appointments; yet again widespread networks assisting unauthorized border crossings have sprung. The major (but not only) difference is that environmental possibilities, so actively used by the smugglers and border crossers of various kinds a century earlier, are being replaced by forging documents for crossings through the official transborder channels.

(De)bordered Childhood Projects in flux. Borders, time, and the childcare arrangements of cross-border commuting parents

Sabine Bollig, University of Trier

✉ *Selina Behnke, University of Trier*

Sabine Bollig, Dr., is a Professor for Social Pedagogy at Trier University in Germany. Her main research topics are Childhood Studies, Child and Youth Services, Welfare Production, Qualitative Research, Ethnography, Practice Theory and Materiality.

Selina Behnke, B.A., is a Student Research Assistant at Trier University in Germany.

These seemingly contradictory outcomes seem to be inherently linked but are assorted differently over time. The proposed research poster will invite the conference participants to understand and provide feedback on the research question, the different research areas as well as their methodological considerations. As the research is in its initial phase, a discussion about the poster could be particularly useful for the quality of the thesis.

A transregional community of faith? Luxembourgish Catholicism in the second half of the 19th Century

Maike Jung, Saarland University

Maike Jung studied Cultural Studies in Historical Perspective at Saarland University (M.A.). After being a research assistant at the Chair of Cultural and Media History at Saarland University, her dissertation on transregional Catholicism in the 19th century has been funded by the Heinrich Böll Foundation since 2021. Her research interests include Catholic history, regional history, transnational history in the 19th century, and interdisciplinary approaches.

Abstract

The paper aims to trace the dynamics and cross-border interconnections of Luxembourgish Catholicism in the second half of the 19th century through the lens of a transregional history of entanglement and communication. The founding of the Apostolic Vicariate of Luxembourg in 1840 marked the territorial rewriting of ecclesiastical structures and the merging of quite different diocesan

traditions into a new entity – for the first time aligning state and ecclesiastical territory in the Grand Duchy. Thus, the administrative construction of the institutionalized local Church not only coincided with a period of accelerated political change but also with a transformative phase of European Catholicism. In this period of so-called religious revival, the newly established Catholic Church of Luxembourg, as an institution as well as a community of faith, was continuously shaped by and in exchange with neighbouring dioceses. While being exposed to French, Belgian, German, but also Roman and other external influences it created its own, decidedly confessional public spheres in a space where language borders were fluid and multilingualism was common, placing Catholics of the Grand Duchy within a multiple border region. It will be shown that Luxembourgish Catholicism created an entangled region in terms of personnel, institutions, and discourse that transcended state borders while hardening others. For concurrently, countertendencies of particularization and demarcation efforts – for example, vis-à-vis Protestantism, liberalism, etc. – can be observed. Without assuming prefabricated national categorizations, the contemporary orientational frame will be reconstructed. The extent to which concepts, perceptions and experiences crossed state borders and to what extent this contributed to a specific spatial consciousness – i.e. had an identity-forming effect on the Catholic faith community – will be investigated on the basis of sermons and pastoral letters, but also devotional practices and popular pious literature.

including Central European University, Hungary, National Research University Higher School of Economics, and Petrozavodsk State University.

In the course of the years 2020–2021 she has been enrolled as a research fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies, New College Europe, Bucharest, Romania, and as a Global Digital Fellow, Council for European Studies (Columbia University), World Society Foundation.

Abstract

Despite current securitization practices at North-western European borders as a response to resurgence of Russian neo-imperialism, they are still being challenged by human resourcefulness denying strict state regulations on border crossings. This makes the Russian-Finnish border an important subject for a historical study. While entanglements between environment, mobility infrastructures, and transborder controls have received ample scholarly attention, little research is focused on the Northern European transborder space and transborder infrastructure as a Soviet, and later Russian securitization object, and its actual reception by the local residents and the transborder travellers. Using documentary collections from the Leningrad Oblast State Archive, (LOGAV), the National Archives of the Republic of Karelia, recent press, interviews, and official sources, the paper compares (b)order-making patterns in early Soviet border controls, including smuggling, refugees, and intelligence trafficking at the Soviet-Finnish border with the recent developments at the beginning of the twenty first century. While so much has changed in terms of border controls, mobility infrastructures, and border-crossing regulations, even now human resourcefulness, targeted against increasing state regulations in border crossings, plays out on the ground.

clear border divisions. The regional disputes were then inherited by the Bolsheviks, whose attempts to resolve the border conflicts managed to prevent further outbreaks for the time being but did not contribute to a long-term solution. With a methodological focus on the spatial analytical perspective, the presentation addresses the question of the extent to which the Tsarist and later Soviet policy of creating infrastructure and administrative order influenced the emergence of border spaces between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Of key importance is the question of what impact this policy had on the Armenian and Azerbaijani populations in the border regions, how it determined their everyday lives and to what extent it affected their mutual—conflict-ridden—relations.

(B)order-making, cross border transactions, and environment at the Russian-Finnish Border (early twentieth – early twenty first century) (Online)

Oksana Ermolaeva, Institute of Advanced Studies, New College Europe, Bucharest and Global Digital Fellow, Council for European Studies, Columbia University (2020–2021)

Oksana Ermolaeva earned a Master's and then a Ph.D. degree in History of Central and Eastern Europe from Central European University (Budapest, Hungary), with the dissertation topic related to the case-study in social history of the Soviet Gulag in a North-Western Russian borderland (the Republic of Karelia). The research was supported by Gerda Henkel Stiftung program for young researchers and CEU overseas grant for Stanford University. Later she taught in several Russian and international higher education institutions.

14.00 Panel 2: Border-Making Processes: Changes over Time

Chair: Christoph Brüll, Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History, University of Luxembourg and UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Discussant: Birte Wassenberg, University of Strasbourg and TEIN (Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network)

Border Temporalities at the French-German Border (1871–1914). A Laboratory for Experimenting with Border Regimes

Benoit Vaillot, University of Toulouse, and associate researcher at University of Strasbourg

Benoit Vaillot is postdoctoral researcher Labex SMS at Université Toulouse – Jean Jaurès, and associate researcher at University of Strasbourg. PhD in History (European University Institute), his thesis focused on the French-German border between 1871 and 1914, when the border was moved after the German annexation of Alsace-Lorraine. He is dealing with the construction of sovereignty and national identities from below, in a transnational perspective.

Abstract

Between 1871 and 1914, the border between France and Germany crystallized so many questions of identity, sovereignty, and geopolitical tensions that Richard Hartshorne considered it the most important boundary in the history of international relations in the Western state system. This border has also served as a laboratory for experimenting with successive border regimes that do not follow the simple pattern of an increasingly tightened border policy. Furthermore, these border regimes have been extended to all Europe in the 20th century.

In many respects, it sowed the seeds of the profound transformations that the European border regimes underwent after the First World War. In this paper, I want to highlight the different border regimes that succeeded each other on the French-German border at the end of the 19th century through the study of border practices, discourses and everyday life. For this purpose, I will mobilize the border1871 database², which records French-German border incidents between 1871 and 1914 mentioned in the archives, and which documents the daily life of inhabitants. I will focus on the closure policy implemented at the French-German border between 1887 and 1905. Indeed, although the obligation to cross the border with a passport and a visa, as required by the German government – a measure unheard of in nineteenth-century Europe – and the increase in border controls proved to be a failure, it prefigured a border regime that became common in the 20th century. I will also pay attention to the concrete application depending on a variety of individual situations, because the regime of nationals was not the same as that of foreigners, and neither was the regime of men as that of women, or the regime of humans as that of non-humans.

Borders and Border Spaces in the South Caucasus: From the Second Half of the 19th Century up to the 1920s

Arpine Maniero, Collegium Carolinum e.V., Research Institute for the History of the Czech Lands and Slovakia

Arpine Maniero is a research assistant at Collegium Carolinum e.V., Research Institute for the History of the Czech Lands and Slovakia. In this position, she coordinates the area of digitisation and electronic publishing. In particular, she is responsible for editing the hybrid

academic series Digi-Ost. She has been working in the field of Digital Humanities since 2002, however, her research interests are focused on the history of Armenia in the broader context of political, social and cultural developments in the Russian Empire and the former Soviet Union. In 2016, she successfully completed her doctoral thesis at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.

Abstract

The recent war in Nagorno-Karabakh in 2020 has created a new geopolitical situation in the South Caucasus, making border demarcation between Armenia and Azerbaijan inevitable. This, however, remains extremely complicated, not only because of the controversy over the historical affiliation of certain territories, but especially because of their strategic importance. The conflict's origins reach far back into history. The conquest and subsequent development of the Caucasus by the Tsarist Empire at the beginning of the 19th century is a history of constant border shifts. The creation of a functioning infrastructure in this peripheral region, where national or cultural internal borders no longer played a role, contributed to the emergence of economic spaces that did not necessarily correlate with actual or imagined national-geographical spaces. There-fore, the development of infrastructure repeatedly challenged, altered or destroyed existing notions of political, national and geographical borders. The ambivalence between growing local needs and the state's infrastructure policies, coinciding with the ethnic divisions of the population, led to the emergence of self-contained ethno-religious spaces that acutely sharpened the ethnic identities and increased national tensions. Consequently, the collapse of the Russian Empire in 1917 left unresolved territorial disputes, which caused Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to declare their independence in 1918 without