



Borders and Borderlands

Today's Challenges and Tomorrow's Prospects

Lisbon, 19th to 22th September 2012

1st Circular

VENUE

On behalf of the Organising Committee we are glad to invite you to take part in the European ABS Conference that will be held in Lisbon (Portugal) from **19th to 22th of September 2012**.

Website: www.bordersandborderlands2012.weebly.com

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OBJECTIVES

By definition borderlines define the ends and limits of state intervention. From the political point of view, they limit their sovereignty and help to distinguish between "us and them" thus providing a sense of belonging. They are also seen as barriers, preventing or hindering the movement of people and goods, acting therefore as factors that negatively affect regional economies.

The ongoing process of globalization and the increase in trade and mobility on a global scale are changing the role and significance of border regions. All over the world borders are undergoing distinct processes. In some cases, we witness a de-bordering process, where opportunities overlap barriers (like the case of the border between the Mercosul partners), in other cases they are still being reinforced and are strongly militarized and conflicting, or just controlled due to a specific situation (like the case between Mexico and the USA).

Sometimes, even if they have disappeared, they still persist in the perceptions of the people who have lived in these places for a long time, as the language, the culture or religion serve as a reminder that they still exist. On the other hand, while ICTs are contributing towards the de-bordering of the world easing contacts and global flows at the urban scale, the sociospatial segregation motivates a re-bordering process based on the

diffusion of condominiums that can only be accessed by a few citizens.

In Europe, borders are on the front line of each great challenge that is put to Europe's future, namely when administering diversity while maintaining cohesion. The process of de-bordering is right to be stimulated, and border regions are becoming the specific object of policies, aiming at greater economic, social and territorial cohesion, recognizing in this the importance of cooperation.

This congress does not aim to merely gather together researchers and academics who work in the issues of borders and cross-border co-operation, but also social actors and institutions that are directly (and daily) involved in cross-border co-operation, implementing projects and solving problems, providing therefore a broad and multidisciplinary discussion.

GATEWAYS

A. Borderless Europe and the Borders of Comfort

1. Conceptual discussion on borders, borderlands, re-bordering, de-bordering.
2. Borderless Europe and European integration ('europeanization')
3. Borders and Internal EU Mobility
4. External Borders and International Cooperation

B. Cross-Border Cooperation and territorial cohesion Governance

1. Evolution of cross-border cooperation
2. Institutional cross-border cooperation (structures)
3. Cross-border cooperation: obstacles and incentives
4. The INTERREG Community Initiative and the reduction of the Barrier Effect in border areas
5. European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation – The new legal cross-border cooperation tool
6. Border Citizens: Sharing practices and experiences

C. Borderlands Development

1. Development Policies – Positive discrimination
2. Economic and social integration

3. Entrepreneurship synergies
4. Labour Mobility
5. Reversing negative tendencies

D. Challenging Borders

1. Identity, sovereignty and stability
2. Virtual regions
3. Border and borderland perceptions
5. Borders and Refugees
6. New Regionalisms and Nationalisms
7. Informal and Immaterial Borders
8. Borders within cities

E. Experiences learned from Cross-Border Cooperation

This is an open gateway to present Case Studies or final results of research projects related to borders and cross-border cooperation, creating an opportunity especially geared towards those that are directly involved at the regional and local level and lead cross-border projects.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The **Scientific Committee** encourages you to submit your abstracts to the Conference. The abstracts should be written in **English**, the official language of the event.

1. Abstract and Paper's Submission – Deadlines

Submission of abstracts

Abstracts should be sent until January 15th

Author's Notification

Authors will be notified about the outcome of the selection process by March 4th

Submission of papers

Completed manuscripts for inclusion in the conference proceedings should be delivered by June 17th

2. Submission Guidelines

Abstract Guidelines

A one page abstract typed in TNR 11, space simple, with title, selected conference gateway, name and affiliation of the author (s), outlining the main aims, as well as the theoretical and methodological underpinnings of the paper, 4 key-words

Selection Process

All abstracts will be subjected to a blind review process by the Conference Scientific Committee to ensure that only high quality papers will be presented

3. Workshop for PhD Students

On the afternoon of the 19th, a workshop is being prepared specifically for PhD students who wish to share and discuss their research with other colleagues working in the same field of border and borderland studies. Those PhD students interested in joining this session can submit an abstract specifically for this workshop, where they will have a chance of presenting and discussing their current research

PUBLICATIONS

Regardless of other publications that may occur these publications are already planned

e-book

All papers from registered authors will be published on a Conference Proceedings e-book. Completed manuscripts for inclusion in the conference proceedings should be delivered by June 17th

Journal

Selected papers from attended authors will be published in one or two special issues of Journal of Borderland Studies

Book

Selected papers from attended authors will be published in a Book to be edited by the Conference Organizers

REGISTRATION

Registration Fees	
Until April 15 th	80€
Until July 15 th	100€
Until September 19 th	120€
Field Trip Registration	for those wishing to participate in the field trip cost is estimated at 30€ per person, including transportation and meals deadline for the field trip registration July 15 th

