

CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline: October 31, 2022

Contesting 21st Century B/Orders

International Conference

September 06-08, 2023

European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder), on-site

organized by the Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION

A little more than two decades into the 21st century, state borders have once more moved to the center of today's geopolitical tensions. Russia's war against Ukraine has brought a renewed focus on border contestations, not only in Central Europe. However, at stake in the contestation of borders is not only a territorial political order or the sovereignty of particular states. The relationship of borders to orders is also crucial in determining regulations and norms that govern different forms of inclusion, recognition and exclusion of social groups within states.

Thus, societal orders require drawing borders, whether they mark nation-state or trans-state associations or mark the contested boundaries of symbolic classifications. With migration and mobility, borders not only function as filters that selectively open or close but also as „hierarchizing machines“ that produce different status categories. Territorial and material borders, as well as social, symbolic and discursive boundaries and their instantiation, play an essential role in practices of power, practices through which processes of inclusion and exclusion are legitimised and hierarchically structured. Societal orders, for example, set boundaries of belonging to national communities and European or Western civilization. Both within the territorial borders of states and transnationally, they define racially and ethnically defined boundaries and mobilise hegemonic norms of gender and sexuality. At the same time, borders and societal orders, whether economic, legal, social, or cultural, are anything but stable. It is thus crucial to investigate how borders and orders are reproduced, contested, and transformed.

At the international conference „Contesting 21st Century B/Orders“, the [Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION](#), in cooperation with the international research networks [“Borders in Globalization”–21st Century borders \(BIG\)](#) and [“Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network” \(TEIN\)](#), aims to discuss how societal orders in the 21st century are changing through new forms of the border and boundary drawing and to investigate how the borders of the contemporary world are shaped.

The Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION invites you to Frankfurt (Oder) on the German-Polish border to engage in vivid discussions on this highly relevant and debated subject. From September 06-08, 2023, a range of border and order concepts will be put up for discussion: What processes of inclusion and exclusion do they condition? What grey zones and liminal spaces are created by them to what effects? Building on the aspects of marking (durability), permeability, and the formation of border zones (liminality) highlighted by the Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION in its founding phase, we focus on the interplay of multidimensional – social, symbolic, and material – border demarcations and their significance for societal orders. Thus, we contribute to scholarly debates in which borders are described in their complexity and multiformity and conceptualized as assemblages, borderscapes, interfaces, or border textures.

We invite contributors to pursue these issues raised above with reference to current socio-political crises – such as the crisis of European migration management, the COVID-pandemic, the consequences of the war in Ukraine, new challenges to states –, and various (inter-)disciplinary, theoretically located fields of research.

There are 16 panels planned, and 5 of them are open. We invite the contributors to apply for the following panels:

- **Researching Digital Borders – Taking Stock, Challenges and New Directions of Research**, Hosts: Nina Amelung (Lisbon University), Silvan Pollozek (European New School, Viadrina)
- **Forced Migrants from Ukraine: Negotiations of “Here and There”**, Hosts: Zeynep Yanasmayan-Wegele (DeZIM), Irina Mützelburg (ZOIS)
- **Imagining and Contesting Future Borders**, Hosts: Hannes Krämer, Dominik Gerst (University of Duisburg-Essen)
- **Migrant Entrepreneurs and B/Order Asymmetries as a Resource**, Host: Carolin Leutloff-Grandits (Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION)
- **Border (Inter)Action**, Hosts: Concha Maria Höfler (Nottingham Trent University), Maria Klessmann (Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION), Sabine Lehner (St. Pölten University of Applied Sciences)

We invite you to send abstracts (300-400 words excluding references) to one of the listed panels **until October 31, 2022, to the respective panel hosts**. Conference languages is English.

Please include the following details: Name, email address, institutional affiliations and academic degrees of all contributing presenters, as well as the title of the contribution.

For more details about the panels and the contact information with the respective hosts, please visit the descriptions of the individual panels linked above.

We will try to provide (partial) travel cost support for foreign participants. Although according to funding guidelines, travel expenses can only be covered for participants with completed doctoral degrees, we invite doctoral candidates to apply for a panel for which we will seek funding opportunities.

For further information see: <https://www.borders-in-motion.de/de/conference-2023/index.html>



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