



# Commission on Political Geography Newsletter

*February 2019*  
*Number 25*

## **Chair's Column — The World Beyond Trump and Brexit**

I started thinking about this column while attending a small mid-January conference on extra-territorial arrangements that was held in the far-north island of Svalbard. At 78 degrees north latitude, the sun never rose above the horizon while I was there and the temperature hovered around -18 degrees Celsius (0 degrees Fahrenheit) much of the time. Under the circumstances, extended periods out of doors were not common, and while I was indoors I found myself occasionally tuning into English-language television news. Not surprisingly, the news at the time was dominated by two stories: Donald Trump's campaign for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and the Brexit mess.

These are, of course, important stories—ones that those of us in the political geography community can and should address in our work. My concern with them led me to organize a session at the August 2018 IGU Regional Conference in Quebec that focused on the roots and implications of the populist turn, and my Commission on Political Geography co-chair Virginie Mamadouh has organized a session sponsored by the CPG for the upcoming June 2019 EUGEO meeting that deals with the revival of nationalism around the world. Yet viewed from the vantagepoint of Svalbard, these issues seemed somewhat remote—or at least less singularly significant as they seem in the United States and Britain. There, discussions with political-geographic overtones centered around the impacts of glacial retreat on the economy and the daily lives of year-round residents, disputes between Norway and Russia over fishing rights in nearby waters, and the status of the Svalbard Treaty (the 1920 treat that established the islands' unique political-territorial status in 1920).

Svalbard, of course, is just one small example of a place where Trump and Brexit are not the dominant story. The week of my visit coincided with a myriad of political-geographic developments in various parts of the world—developments that were largely pushed to the margins of the news in the wake of the heavy emphasis on Trump and Brexit: the political crisis in Venezuela (this one got more attention than most), major anti-government protests in Sudan, deadly airstrikes in Afghanistan, demonstrations opposing the renaming of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a fast-growing political crisis in Zimbabwe, and much more. The comparative invisibility of most of these stories, despite their significance, should serve as a reminder to those of us in the political geography community of the importance of working to ensure that we do not become overly focused on a narrow set of issues that dominate the headlines. Yes, those is-

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The Commission on Political Geography (CPG) of IGU-UGI aims at encouraging geographical research on these various dimensions of the connections between power, politics, and spaces, and at stimulating the exchange of findings and insights among political geographers from different countries. It is also focused on the analysis of the connections between political geographies (that is all the discursive praxis pertaining with the representation of the world in its political organization) and the making of the world itself. You can join the mailing list by sending an empty email to [IGU-CPG@uva.nl](mailto:IGU-CPG@uva.nl) or by contacting the administrator at [v.d.mamadouh@uva.nl](mailto:v.d.mamadouh@uva.nl).



<http://www.igu-cpg.unimib.it/>



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/456054597763023/>

sues are consequential and we need to be addressing them. But it is important not simply to mimic the distinct Western bias in media coverage or overlook the myriad important political-geographic issues that get less attention: the political-territorial implications of resource extraction, the suppression of human rights, governance challenges associated with growing inequalities, and the like. These issues touch places in profound ways all over the world, and they call out for attention and analysis.

Fortunately, the geographic tendency to think broadly about developments on our planet has meant that a significant number of geographers do focus attention on matters that are outside the gaze of the mainstream press. One of the important things the IGU's Commission on Political Geography can do is to facilitate the further exploration of those matters—a task facilitated by the broad range of geographers from around the world who participate in commission meetings and associated activities. Participation can help deepen our understanding of developments in different places and promote the cross-fertilization of ideas that is critical to addressing the political-geographic challenges we face in the twenty-first century. In that spirit, I encourage all of you to embrace the opportunity to share ideas at some of the forthcoming CPG-related meetings described in this newsletter. Please also let me and my co-chair know if you have ideas that can help move the commission forward.

Alexander 'Alec' Murphy  
CPG Co-Chair

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## Past Events

### **IGU Thematic Conference “Practical Geography and XXI Century Challenges” Moscow, Russia June 2018**

The Institute of Geography of Russian Academy of Sciences (IGRAS: [www.igras.ru](http://www.igras.ru)) in Moscow is the largest and the most known geographical research organization in Russia. In 2018 it celebrated its centennial. On this occasion the Institute held in June 2018 the IGU Thematic Conference “Practical Geography and Challenges of the 21st Century”. The event was co-organized by the Russian Academy of Sciences, Faculty of Geography of Moscow State University, Russian Geographical Society, and Russian branch of World Wild Foundation. The conference was also sponsored by Vernadsky Foundation, Russian Foundation for Basic Studies, and “Russian Textbook” publishing house (the general media partner).

It was attended by 754 participants including 242 foreign geographers from 36 countries. Like at IGU Regional Conference in Moscow (2015), the largest group of participants came from China (46) and India (35), as well as from Croatia, France, Germany, Hungary and USA (12-17 participants from each of these countries). Russian geographers were represented mostly by the inhabitants of Moscow and Saint Petersburg but also by scholars from 25 other cities.

Besides a large number of workshops suggested by the groups of scholars or coordinators of international projects, the programme of the conference consisted of the sessions sponsored by 9 IGU Commissions including the Commission on Political Geography. It held two sessions which com-

prised 16 presentations. The first session organized by Fedor Popov was devoted to different relevant questions of the discipline. John O'Loughlin based his presentation on his 35-years' experience as an editor of *Political Geography* and shared his skeptical view on the current state of the field: to his opinion, some important topics are either ignored or abandoned by the authors of the journal. Other presentations made by Fedor Popov, Andrey Zinovyev, Nikita Turov (all from Russia) and Ariane Bachelet (France) concerned nationalism, irredentism, conflicts, "quasi-states" and regional political cultures in Europe and post-Soviet Caucasus.

The second session organized by Vladimir Kolosov was entitled "Borders and Border Regions in Central-East Europe and the post-Soviet space". Zoltán Hajdú (Hungary) spoke about illusions and disappointment by the perspectives of integration in new eastern EU members. Sabine von Löwis (Germany) reported about her long-years studies of a phantom border – the impact of the former boundary between Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires on today cultural landscape in West Ukraine. Alexander Prishchepov with his colleagues (Denmark) used the methods of remote sensing (spatial images) for studying land use in East Europe and in particular the differentiating role of political borders. Dina Krichker (Singapore) considered small shuttle trade across the boundary between Morocco and Spain in Mellila. Russian geographers Mikhail Karpenko, Vladimir Kolosov, Ekaterina Mikhailova, Kira Morachevskaya, Alexander Sebentsov, and Maria Zotova investigated various dimensions of Russian land borders – the development of CBC institutions, the perceptions of neighbours and the symbolic landscapes, tourist attractiveness and also re-bordering in Crimea in the new geopolitical context.

John O'Loughlin (USA) as a key speaker presented a large-scale interdisciplinary project on the impact of climate change on civil conflicts and violence in Africa (the case of Kenya). One of his key points was the conclusion that the poorest cattle raising area often suffering from draughts and starvation are the most exposed to sharp conflicts. The lecture of Claude Grasland (France) concerned the influence of distance and socio-cultural factors on the territorial pattern of global flows, in particular, foreign trade. Evgeny Schwartz (Russia) stopped on the mechanisms of voluntary corporative responsibility based on market principles in environment management. Dong Suocheng (China) made an overview of the first results of multidisciplinary scientific expedition studying the perspectives of Russia-Mongolia-China international economic corridor and coordinated by him. Yukio Himiyama (Japan) devoted his lecture to the concept of sustainable development in geographical education on all levels in the light of the most important international agreements reached last years.

The objective of the symposium "Shaping "Big Eurasia" and the Chinese "One Belt - One Road Initiative" organized by Dong Suocheng, Vladimir Kolosov and Viacheslav Shuperwas to analyze the processes of economic integration and cross-border cooperation on different levels potentially leading to the emergence of "Big Eurasia". A number of presentations were focused on the concept of "green development" in different natural and socio-economic conditions and to the creation of transcontinental railways between the Pacific ports and Europe via the territories of Russia and Kazakhstan. The speakers emphasized the complementarity of natural resources and other factors of production along these railways, especially the availability of water. They also discuss a potential impact of new railways on the development of international tourism.

The participants noticed an interdisciplinary character of many presentations and their high academic level and that much attention was paid to the interplay between the scales of analysis and to theoretical questions. It is planned to publish special issues of the journal *Geography. Environment. Sustainability* including the papers submitted to the conference.



**Photos from IGU Thematic Conference.**

**2018 Regional Conference “Apprécier la difference/Appreciating the difference”  
 Québec, Canada  
 August 2018**

This was the main meeting of the IGU over the past year, and the largest geographic gathering in the history of Canada. It included fifteen plenary talks on human, physical and education geography, over 1200 oral presentations, one hundred posters and ten field excursions in the Quebec City area. Important contributions came from partners such as Google Earth Outreach, National Geographic, Jakarta Cartography 3D, K2 Geospatial.

The CPG sponsored five sessions at the meeting, two on “linguistic diversity, mobility and inclusion: old and new political and cultural geographies of linguist difference,” one on “The populism-nationalism nexus and political geographic (dis)order,” and two open sessions with a diverse array of papers. A total of 19 papers were given in these sessions, and attendance ranged from c. 20 people to close to 50. Political geography was thus well represented at the meeting.



**The Doctoral Forum on “The Belt and Road & Political Geography”  
(co-sponsored)  
Guangzhou, China  
August 2018  
LIU Yungang**

The Doctoral Forum on “The Belt and Road & Political Geography” was held in Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou, China from August 19 to August 22, aiming at promoting the development of political geography in China. Co-hosted by the School of Geography and Planning, and Graduate School in Sun Yat-Sen University, the forum invited 12 well-known speakers from China and abroad for lectures, discussions and comments, including Professor Alexander Murphy, Professor Colin Flint, Professor Xiaobo Su, Professor Changqing Song, Researcher Chuanglin Fang, Professor Debing Du, Professor Jianzhou Liu, Professor Shangyi Zhou, Professor Huasong Luo, Researcher Hongou Zhang, Professor Hong Zhu, Professor Yungang Liu.

Also, the forum successfully included 63 outstanding young scholars and doctoral or master students who were engaged in the study of political geography, geopolitics, and the Belt and Road initiative, from universities and institutes in China and abroad. Bringing together mature and young scholars from China and abroad, the forum exposed young researchers and students to the most fundamental ideas and concepts in political geography and geopolitics.

The forum included expert lectures, seminars, and a field trip. In the opening ceremony on August 19, Professor Yungang Liu first introduced the background, aim and significance of the doctoral forum. What followed was the first expert lecture session themed “Dialogue between Eastern and Western Political Geographers.” In this session, Professor Alexander Murphy gave a speech on the research directions in political geography, introducing Chinese scholars to longstanding and emerging themes in the subject of political geography. Professor Colin Flint discussed the many ways political geography may “see” the Belt and Road Initiative.

Later, Professor Changqing Song and Professor Chuanglin Fang gave two speeches on quantitative approaches to the study of georelations, the “Belt and Road Initiative” and urbanization. In the two subsequent expert lecture sessions during the evenings of August 20 and 21, Professor Colin Flint and Professor Alexander Murphy gave two lectures introducing geopolitics, and examining key perspectives and approaches in political geography.

On August 20 and 21, four half-day seminar sessions took place. The themes were Globalization and “Belt and Road Initiative,” Geopolitics and Living Space, Border Governance and Cross-border Development, and Cultural Identity and Immigration Society. A series of well-known scholars made speeches in the seminar sessions. Professor Xiaobo Su made a presentation titled “Isolation and Integration,” discussing Burmese Labor and Social Governance in Yunnan Border Cities. Professor Shangyi Zhou presented on the impact of imported oil on China’s provincial economy, based on the analysis of provincial input-output table. And, Professor Yungang Liu made a presentation titled “geopolitics, living space, and political geography.”

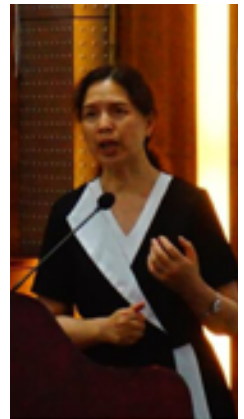
On August 22, the forum organized a field trip to Nansha District, a newly developing district in Guangzhou. Major investigation sites included the civic square, the exhibition center of Pearl Bay, the petrochemical base, Guangzhou Toyota factory, and a cross-border shopping center. Participants were introduced to Nansha’s role as the state’s new district, free trade zone, and sub-center of Guangzhou, as well as to its planning, economics, and governance.

**Photos from the Doctoral Forum.**

Group photo.



Dr. Xiaoabo Su



Professor Shangyi Zhou

**III Congresso Brasileiro de Geografia Política, Geopolítica e Gestão do Territóriocon-  
ference (co-sponsored)  
Niterói, Rio de Janeiro  
September 2018  
Adriana Dorfman**

The 3rd CONGEO - 3rd Brazilian Congress on Political Geography, Geopolitics and Territorial Management took place at the Universidade Federal Fluminense, in Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, lead by professors Juliana Nunes and Licio Monteiro, between September 10th and 14th, 2018. It gathered more than 400 people (scholars, professors, practitioners, as well as graduate and undergraduate students) from Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, Haiti, Spain, The Netherlands and other countries interested in sharing their findings and updating their discussions. The theme of 3rd CONGEO was “Crisis and reinvention of the spaces of politics”, attuned with the current crisis context and its reflections on the possibilities and limits to action and to political decision in Brazil and elsewhere.

All the CONGEOs have been organized in tracks : 1) Political Geography and Geopolitics: from classical perspectives to contemporary developments; 2) (Geo)politics of the environment, resource governance and sustainability; 3) Localisms, nationalisms, regionalisms and globalisms; 4) Borders: continually changing territorial challenge; 5) Governance scales in territorial public policies; 6) Regional integration and new spaces of international cooperation and conflict; 7) Territory, politics, citizenship, and democracy. The 2018 edition included an 8th track, due to its rising importance: 8) Political Geography and education: thematic, conceptual and methodological innovations. An average of 50 people gave oral or poster presentations in each track.

The congress' activities included conferences by the president of CPG - IGU Dr. Virginie Mamadouh and by Dr. Heriberto Cairo Carou, from Universidad de Madrid, Spain; roundtables on Electoral Geography; Participant cartography and territorialities in post-conflict Colombia; and Geopolitics, Knowledge and Power. Other sessions were dedicated to book launchings, celebrations, cultural activities and fieldwork.

Working languages were Portuguese and Spanish. In Brazil, Geography is taught at basic school, which ensures its presence in most universities and a large number of geographers and Geography teachers, professors and researchers. Due mainly to linguistic issues and to its own critical mass, Brazilian geographers are prone to stay out of international events. The III CONGEO organizing



**Photos from CONGEO 2018**

committee did a deliberate effort to internationalize the Brazilian Congress on Political Geography, inviting international experts to the Scientific Committee (many of whom belong to CPG) and circulating the call for papers in global lists.

The effort of the organizers was met by CPG-UGI, which offered a travel grant of US\$500 for non-Brazilian participants. Dr. Haroldo Dilla Alfonso, a Cuban working in Chile at the Instituto de Estudios Internacionales (INTE) of Universidad Arturo Prat received the prize for his study on border regimes. Videos of the talks can be found online, and dossier on *Revista Brasileira de Geografia* and books will be published to register and refine the discussions. The next CONGEO will take place in 2020 and you are already invited.

**BRIT Conference “North-South Dialogue on the Border Management”**  
**University of Ibadan, Nigeria / Université d’Abomey-Calavi, Benin**  
**October 2018**  
**Jussi Laine**

The 16th edition of the Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) conference was organised for the very first time on the African continent on October 15-18, 2018 in Nigeria and the neighbouring Benin Republic. The BRIT is an informal international network of researchers and practitioners dealing with issues on borders, which has developed from a small number of scholars passionate about borders in 1994 into a group that now includes hundreds of researchers and professors of international repute. The international BRIT conferences take places every two years in various interesting border locations, with the tradition to have the conference organised in two different countries sharing a border in order to allow the participants also to experience and better understand the local border related issues more tangibly. The BRIT network has maintained close links with other large networks, in particular with the Association for Borderlands Studies (ABS), who are also invested in the study of borders.

This year’s conference was a 4-day affair during which political geographers, international relations and peace studies experts as well as practitioners of power, space and mobility

joined together to discuss the negotiation of border management and other border-related phenomena in North-South relations. If nothing more than imaginary lines separating countries from one another, borders continue to have a profound impact on our lives. Borders have come back – and even in quite hard forms in terms of walls, fences and similar barriers in a world in which borders are supposed to have disappeared. Along with that is how they might be negotiated to bring about more just and less discriminatory regimes of mobility. To tackle the topic at hand, the conference set out to consider, *inter alia*, the push and pull factors for both regular and irregular migration from the South to the North in the modern world and the global, regional and national border control mechanisms that exist for dealing with the problems and how adequate are they.

The preparation of the conference was commenced when the Institute for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria and the Border Communities Development Agency, Abuja, Nigeria first submitted a successful joint concept note on North-South Dialogue on Border Management to the Scientific Committee during the previous BRIT conference Denmark and Germany in 2016. Later on, the Université d'Abomey-Calavi in the Benin Republic was invited as the co-host of the conference to honor the BRIT conference tradition to organize the event in two neighboring countries and afford the participants a true cross-border experience. The planning stages of the conference included the establishment of a Secretariat at the University of Ibadan, setting up of the Local Planning Committee, National Planning Committee, with the Ministry of Interior coordinating other 23 Ministerial Departments and finally the Joint Nigeria-Benin planning committees. Despite many setbacks during the planning stages, the event was a success with the relentless hard work by the local organizing team, enduring support from a long list of sponsors and partners. In particular, the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) supported the conference by organizing substantial logistic support and making all the border crossings and the related paper work easy for the participants.

The first leg of the event was held at the University of Ibadan Conference Centre. The Opening Ceremony on October 15, 2018. featured welcome addresses by the Honorable Minister of Interior Lt. Gen (rtd) Abdulrahman B. Dambazau, Comptroller General of Nigeria Immigration Muhammad Babandede, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Ibadan – Professor Abel Idowu Olyainka and the Ambassador of Benin in Nigeria, Madame Paline ADOVI-Yekpe. These were followed by keynote addresses by Professor Anthony I. Asiwaju, one of earliest African scholars in Border Studies, from African Regional Institute, Imeko, Nigeria; Professor Paul Nugent from Centre of African Studies from University of Edinburgh, Professor James W. Scott from University of Eastern Finland and Professor Isaac Olawale Albert from the Institute for Peace & Strategic Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria The Conference was declared open by the Deputy Governor of Oyo State, Chief Michael Adeyemo.

The ceremony set the tone for the rest of the conference in urging scholars and practitioners from both the global North and South to critically exchange ideas on how to improve border management for the betterment of the two parts of the world in the context of the emerging problems of human migration. It became clear from the outset that responding to the complex questions at hand in a meaningful way would require a coor-



minated, systematic and structured approach, while answers generated must be hinged on the principles of complementarity, partnership and shared responsibility given the fact that dialogue promotes buy-in and sustainable solutions among all stakeholders. The opening ceremony was rounded off with a guided tour to the University of Ibadan Zoological Gardens and a welcome dinner, which lasted well into the night with a music, cultural performances and other attractions.

160 participants from twenty-four countries had registered to attend the conference, yet it became apparent that many were eventually unable to make their ways to Nigeria and Benin. Nevertheless, the program proceeded as planned and the many sessions were packed with audience due to a very strong local participation. In addition to the plenary session both in Nigeria and Benin, a total of 22 parallel sessions were eventually organized. Overall, the discussions focused on the nature, structure and management of common border spaces, enhancement of legal cross-border flows, causes of the conflicts of interest among border stakeholders and inter-agency collaboration in the management of more open borders. These issues were approached more tangibly on third day of the conference, which consisted of a long, but illuminating excursion in minivans through the shared border area between the countries. The participants departed early in the morning and travelled from Ibadan through Abeokuta, Ogun State through Imeko-Afo and finally to Ilara border crossing. Having been formally welcomed into Benin Republic, the participants commenced their journey into the interior of Ketu, Iwoye and other nearby villages, before finally making it to Cotonou, Benin, late in the evening. The next morning the conference continued at the Université d'Abomey-Calavi with keynote talks by Professors Sinsin Brice concerning transboundary protected areas sites for peace management between neighboring countries and Jussi Laine, who talked about borders, migration and security from an ethical perspective as well as with a presentation by Dr. Afouda Servais' on Benin-Nigeria border trade and integration issues in West Africa, which were followed by a thorough and lively discussion.

While a number of presentations clearly extended the scope of the original conference theme, these different threads were successfully pulled together in the final discussion of the conference, in which both the dedicated panelists as well as the audience both engaged in summing the conference up. As summarized by the focal persons, Dr. Willie Eselebor and Dr. Koffi Benoit Sossou, various issues related to border spaces and the related dynamics continue to have major impact on our lives. Insensitivity and indifference on the part of governance structures in the face of distress over populations in border areas constitute potential threats and risks which may lead to radicalization, extremism, and other challenges. Thus, it is necessary to seek better integrated approaches to the development of border spaces. The scholars and practitioners agreed, from their respective perspectives, on the necessity of effective joint border management for sustainable development of common border spaces.

In all, the conference was certainly a success and provided the participants with a unique opportunity to visit this West African region and to engage in thorough discussion with the other participants representing very varied backgrounds and positions. The beauty of the BRIT conferences has been that no two conferences have been alike, but each event has

been distinctive. This one was no exception but the result reflected great the ideas of the organisers and took inspiration from the local setting, context and culture. I wish to all participants for making this conference a memorable one full of inspiring talks and exciting new connections. I would also like to particularly thank all the local organisers and their respective teams, who all worked very hard to make this long-awaited first BRIT conference on African soil a reality.

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## Future IGU Events

**EU-Brazil Cooperation on Migration and Borders: Workshop hosted by the Amsterdam Centre for European Studies (ACES) of the University of Amsterdam, In collaboration with Project FOLLOW (ERC), The Commission on Political Geography (IGU) and the Amsterdam institute for social science research (AISSR)**

**8 March, 9.00 – 17:00**

**University Library, Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

What makes European policies designed to manage migration and combat transnational crime travel more or less successfully around the world? This workshop uses the example of Europe-Brazil migration and border management cooperation to address this issue. Migration and borders have become key topics for the relation between the European Union, Brazil and other Latin American countries in recent years. On the follow up to the 2018 UN Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees, the EU has elected sound migration management in Latin America a strategic priority. The 'European Union – Latin America and the Caribbean Structured Dialogue on Migration' has also recently highlighted data sharing as a priority for cooperation between the regions. Brazil is emerging as a strategic partner for EU's migration and borders cooperation with Latin America. In 2017, the European Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation signed a strategic agreement with Brazil's Federal Police. The agreement foresees the exchange of operational data to combat drugs trafficking, money laundering and terrorism financing, amid other issues. Brazil is also playing a key role in rolling out ELPACcTO, 'Europe-Latin America Assistance Programme Against Transnational Organised Crime'. Through ELPACcTO, the EU is currently offering technical assistance and financial aid to expand the Police Information System used by Brazil and other 17 Latin American countries. The system is to be used to exchange data on human-trafficking, migrant smuggling and un-documented migration, amid other issues. These and several other initiatives now foresee the exchange of operational data and ICT technologies between European and Brazilian law enforcement and border management agencies.

The ACES Workshop will bring together Brazilian and European practitioners and scholars working in different policy fields to discuss the nature, legality and practical challenges surrounding EU-Brazil Cooperation on Migration and Borders. Invited speakers will offer an overview of some of the main cooperation programmes being implemented. Discussion will place these initiatives against the broader picture of EU's law enforcement and border-management cooperation with third-countries. The workshop is meant as a first step towards a shared research agenda on the nature, legality and effectiveness of EU's border control and migration management cooperation with Brazil and other Latin American countries.

For details about the programme please contact: [v.d.mamadouh@uva.nl](mailto:v.d.mamadouh@uva.nl), There is a limited amount of seats available. If you would like to participate please send an email to [g.vanderstarre@uva.nl](mailto:g.vanderstarre@uva.nl).

**2019 EUGEO Conference**  
**Galway, Ireland**  
**May 15-18, 2019**

The 7th EUGEO Congress will be held in conjunction with the 51st Conference of Irish Geographers, in Galway in May 2019. The theme for the 2019 conference is Re-Imagining Europe's Future Society and Landscapes. The theme focuses on the centrality of the concepts of society and landscape within the Discipline of Geography and the importance of the relationship that exists between the physical and cultural landscape.

This conference will offer participants the opportunity to reflect on and re-imagine futures within the geographical boundary of Europe. The overarching theme will be reflected throughout the conference programme and themed fieldtrips. We hope that this broad and inclusive theme attracts a wide variety of geographers with a range of physical, social, cultural, political and environmental research interests. The conference will take place over four days (May 15th – 18th 2019), calls for sessions and paper will become available over the coming days and weeks.

The Commission on Political Geography sponsors three sessions:

1. Borders of populism in the European Union  
Convenors: Anna Casaglia (University of Eastern Finland) and Raffaella Coletti (Sapienza University of Rome)
2. The end of endism? The Revival of the Nation State in Global Geopolitics  
Convenors: Elena Dell'Agnese, Università di Milano-Bicocca and Virginie Mamadouh, Universiteit van Amsterdam
3. Neighborhood as a geographical and political concept: the European experience  
Convenor: Vladimir Kolosov, Institute of Geography of Russian Academy of Sciences

Please use the online portal (<https://www.eugeo2019.eu/submissions>) to submit your abstract and send a copy to the convenors of the session you would like to join. There is also an open call for papers.

**Rethinking Border Security in Asia**  
**Guangzhou, China**  
**July 28-29, 2019**

Border entails a space of encounter and compromise, of mutual penetration and interaction, with localized characteristics of order and disorder. Borders cannot be reduced to internally consistent lines that state authorities demarcate to control the flows of people and commodities. Nor do they represent the absolute presence of a stable and coherent center at the edge of national territory. Rather, territorial integrity of nation states can be contradictory with a variety of alterities within and outside the lines ostensibly marked by central powers. This ambivalent nature of border is prevalent in Asia and accordingly, border security in Asia in terms of border control, territorial dispute, and cross-border regionalization deserves much attention. Meanwhile, the implementation of “One Belt, One Road initiative” by China has rapidly changed cross-border flows and sped up transnational regionalization in Asia. The accelerating pace of economic integration further pushes nation-states in Asia to restructure their border regime in order to facilitate the flows of capital and commodities, but restrict the flows of unwanted populations. We therefore call for papers analyzing



border security in the process of transnational regionalization and economic globalization.

The Department of Geography, University of Oregon, and the School of Tourism Management, South China Normal University, plan to organize a conference on “Rethinking Border Security in Asia,” which will be held on 28-29 July 2019 in Guangzhou, China. We plan to invite prestigious economic and political geographers, as well as established scholars in political science, international relations, history, and other related disciplines, to share their knowledge of border security in Asia and elsewhere. We welcome papers addressing (but not limited to) the following issues:

- Territorial disputes;
- Cross-border migration;
- Illegal (informal) cross-border trade;
- Border control policies;
- Everyday border-crossing experience;
- Transnational regime for border security;
- Cross-border division of labor;
- Non-traditional Security and border control

**IGU Commission ‘Geography of Governance’ 2019 Annual Conference “New Challenges of Decentralization”**

**Pécs, Hungary**

**May 9-10, 2019**

Decentralisation has been one of the buzzwords in the neoliberal good governance public policy literature in the last decades. After the main decentralisation trend in the Western democracies in the seventies, developing and transitioning countries worldwide were advised to devolve most powers of public service delivery and local economic development. The aim of the workshop is to discuss the experience of these recent territorial reforms.

This conference will address the many territorial reforms that have been implemented under the umbrella of principles of subsidiarity and decentralisation, supported and sponsored by the EU (cohesion funds) and other international organisations (OECD, World Bank, UN), and referring especially to regional competitiveness and the achievement of the Millennium Goals. Attention will be devoted not only to the financial crisis in 2008 but also to the many negative experiences and even failed reforms that have fostered scepticism concerning decentralisation and rescaling.

For more information: <https://sites.google.com/view/igu-cgog-workshop-pecs2019/home>

**International Conference on Local and Urban Governance: Trends, Challenges, and Innovations in a Globalizing World**

**University of Cape Verde, Cidade da Praia, Cape Verde**

**September 4-7, 2019**

The International Conference on Local and Urban Governance: trends, challenges and innovations in a globalizing world, will be convened by the International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Geography of Governance and organized in collaboration with the University of Cape Verde (UNICV). It will be held in Cidade da Praia, Cape Verde, on September 4-7, 2019.

The Conference aims to explore and to discuss the changes, challenges, and innovations confronting Local and Urban Governance worldwide in the context of the new global urban agendas. It

will be a forum for the discussion of the state-of-the-art research on local and urban governance, in the different regions of the world. Within this overall goal, the 2019 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance also aims to provide the opportunity for comparisons between African municipalities and African cities as well as comparisons with those in other regions of the world, in particular in the Global South.

The Conference will bring together researchers from academia, public and private sectors, and non-governmental organizations, in an effort to present and debate their research on local and urban governance and to share knowledge, viewpoints, methods, research outcomes and policy ideas.

For more information: [https://igu-online.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/IGU\\_CGOG\\_2019-Conference-flyer.pdf](https://igu-online.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/IGU_CGOG_2019-Conference-flyer.pdf)

**IGU Thematic Conference “Heritage Geographies: Politics Uses, and Governance of the Past”**

**Lecce, Italy**

**May 2020**

Following the 2005 Faro Convention “Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time.”

This conference will examine the political and governance dimensions of cultural heritage. Topics to be addressed include sustainable approaches to heritage governance, how to promote community involvement in heritage debates, heritage and the information society, heritage and knowledge, and the relationship between heritage and nationalism.

## Other Future Events

### **Les Rencontres de Géopolitique critique cherchent à articuler des approches, des méthodes, des expériences et à susciter le contact et l'échange**

**Grenoble, France**

**March 11-15, 2019**

La question de la ré-émergence ou de l'exacerbation de la violence se pose plus en plus. Attentats terroristes en Europe, guerres interminables au Moyen Orient, en Afrique... « Violence partout, justice nulle part » titre une revue récente. Pourtant ces lectures privilégient l'analyse de la violence physique, directe, qui à notre sens ne couvre pas l'ensemble du spectre de la violence.

Pour leur 4e édition, les Rencontres de Géopolitique critique proposent de poser la question de la nature des violences à l'œuvre dans notre société, avec la question notamment, qui est violent? et de réfléchir aux modalités d'une action constructive dans ce contexte qui nous permettent de nous projeter vers un futur désirable.

For more information: <https://www.pacte-grenoble.fr/actualites/rencontres-de-geopolitique-critique-2019>

### **American Association of Geographers (AAG) 2019 Annual Meeting.**

**Washington, D.C., USA**

**April 2019**

Geographers, GIS specialists, environmental scientists, and other leaders will gather to share the latest in research and applications in geography, sustainability, and GIScience. The meeting will be held April 3-7, 2019 and will feature more than 6,900 presentations, posters, workshops, and field trips by leading scholars, experts, and researchers. The 2019 Annual Meeting will be headquartered at the Marriott Wardman Park and Omni Shoreham in Washington, D.C.'s Woodley Park neighborhood. A Preconference of the AAG Political Geography Specialty Group will be hosted by the Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies at George Washington University on April 2.

For more information: <https://annualmeeting.aag.org/>

### **8th International Conference of Critical Geography 2019 "In Permanent Crisis? Uneven Development, Everywhere War and Radical Praxis"**

**Athens, Greece**

**April 19-23, 2019**

The 8th ICCG in Athens seeks to elaborate on the structural relations, materialities and cultures of uneven development and everywhere war, which bring about the condition of permanent crisis we find ourselves in the world over. Building on the previous ICCG 2015 conference, we regard "permanent crisis" as a regime that needs to be radically challenged in both political and theoretical terms, in our everyday lives as well as in the host of global, national and local institutions that reproduce it. We, therefore, want to invoke again the notion of praxis as the realisation of collective thinking and acting that is required in order to remake, to change the world.

For more information: <https://www.iccg2019.org/>



**Making the map: cross-border and intercultural representations from ancient history to today****Université de Haute-Alsace, France****May 20-22, 2019**

The conference aims to reflect on and debate the cartography of transboundary and intercultural phenomena. Through an international lens, and drawing from multiple disciplines, it aims to contribute to the conceptualisation of maps independent of political borders by inviting us to think about them across three axes: time (how compatible have intercultural phenomena and cartographic enterprises been throughout history?), space (what are the possible approaches when mapping intercultural or cross-border phenomena depending on the area of study, of creation and of diffusion of maps?), and method (how/why can making maps show such phenomena?).

For more information: <https://www.cresat.uha.fr/produire-la-carte/>

**2019 Regional Studies Association Annual Conference: Pushing Regions Beyond Their Border”****Santiago de Compostela, Spain****June 5-7, 2019**

Regions are intrinsically bounded territories. However, they are increasingly exposed to global forces and flows that undermine their borders. Therefore, it is necessary to push regions beyond their limits, which can be understood as physical, but also as mental and disciplinary. In this sense, regions have to be re-examined. The possibilities are multiple, including, among others: regions as scenarios for resilience and global competition; regions as social and political constructions permanently adapted to trans-scale dynamics; and regions as arenas for cooperation and inclusion.

In short, the 2019 RSA Annual Conference aims to discuss how to push regions beyond all kinds of borders. We are calling upon the regional studies, policy and neighbouring communities to join us in Santiago de Compostela.

For more information: <https://www.regionalstudies.org/events/pushing-regions-beyond-their-borders/>

**Comité National Français de Géographie : Pensées émergentes en géographie politique et géopolitique****Paris, France****June 14, 2019**

Dans la perspective du Congrès exceptionnel de l'Union Géographique Internationale à Paris en 2022, « Le temps des géographes/Time for geographers », la Commission de géographie politique et de géopolitique organise une journée doctorale sur le thème « Pensées émergentes en géographie politique et en géopolitique ». Dans le cadre des activités de la commission, le but de cet évènement est de permettre à de jeunes chercheurs en géographie politique et en géopolitique de présenter leurs travaux et de les discuter avec des chercheurs seniors. L'objectif sera également de fédérer les géographes travaillant autour des dimensions politiques de l'espace, et de réfléchir aux spécificités des approches des géographes français dans ce domaine. Si au début des années 70, géographie politique et géopolitique étaient quasi inexistantes dans le paysage universitaire français, la situation a nettement évolué depuis et la dimension politique s'est insérée dans de nombreux domaines de la géographie française. Cela est évidemment le cas de ces deux champs que sont la

géopolitique, renouvelée par Yves Lacoste et la revue *Hérodote*, ou la géographie politique dont les publications en France se sont développées à nouveau à partir de la fin des années 1970 (Paul Claval, Claude Raffestin, André-Louis Sanguin).

Mais l'approche politique des phénomènes spatiaux dépasse aujourd'hui largement ces seules branches. Elle apparaît également plus ponctuellement dans d'autres champs comme la géographie sociale, culturelle, urbaine, environnementale, entre autres. Alors que le champ du politique en géographie a d'abord été étudié à travers le seul prisme de l'Etat (Ratzel), les échelles d'analyse, les méthodologies, les approches épistémologiques et les objets d'études se sont multipliés au cours des dernières décennies. Les approches critiques ont d'abord procédé par déconstruction conceptuelle, pour mettre en avant la puissance des représentations qui sous-tendent les rapports de force dans les territoires. Sous l'influence d'approches plus radicales, notamment grâce à l'apport des pensées féministes, la géographie politique se déplace vers d'autres champs, avec des applications dans l'analyse du quotidien et de l'intime notamment. Elle pose également la question de la circulation des concepts et ouvre des débats sur la géopolitique des savoirs. La géopolitique des données est aussi un nouveau champ alors que la numérisation de la société se renforce.

Ces doctorales offriront donc l'occasion de rendre visible cette diversité, que ce soit en termes thématiques ou méthodologiques, et de permettre des échanges entre ces perspectives. Elles s'inscrivent ainsi dans une mission plus large de la Commission, celle de dresser une « cartographie » de l'approche politique dans la géographie française, d'identifier les nouveaux objets d'études ouverts, et de nourrir un débat autour des thèmes qui pourront éventuellement faire l'objet de potentiels panels en 2022. Aussi, l'objectif de ces échanges entre doctorants et chercheurs confirmés en géographie politique et géopolitique est triple :

1/ Nourrir la réflexion des doctorants autour des thématiques et des méthodologies de la géographie politique et de la géopolitique et des formes de leur renouvellement respectif. Favoriser un échange et une transmission intergénérationnelle dans cette discipline. Inscrire l'évènement dans une dimension pédagogique en l'ouvrant largement possible aux étudiants de Master (géographie, sciences politiques, etc.).

2/ Montrer la vivacité et l'actualité des recherches en géographie politique et en géopolitique. Mettre en valeur la pertinence de la géographie dans l'étude du politique et des jeux de pouvoirs, à la fois en termes de compétition et de coopération dans les / pour les territoires.

3/ Entretenir les liens et les échanges entre les chercheurs de la discipline, géographie politique et géopolitique, malgré leur dispersion dans différentes structures. Organiser une rencontre régulière au sein de la discipline entre différentes approches et différentes institutions.

Pour plus d'informations : [amael.cattaruzza@yahoo.fr](mailto:amael.cattaruzza@yahoo.fr).

**International Conference of Anarchist and Libertarian Geography  
Rabastens, France  
June 12-16, 2019**

The ICAGG 2017 aims to create a place where researchers and persons interested in anarchist perspectives and practices can exchange and create meaningful connections in an international context. The 2019 edition is the second CIGAL (International Conference of Anarchist and Libertarian Geographers). It is organized in Rabastens, a village in southwest France. This village is located in a region marked by its workers' struggles and more recently by the ZAD of Sivens. It is home to

a dense network of associations sensitive to philosophies and emancipatory and libertarian practices that encourage questioning and that nourish local reflections and actions. That's why this place is conducive to discussions between researchers and inhabitants from all backgrounds.

For more information, email [cigal\\_2019@riseup.net](mailto:cigal_2019@riseup.net).

**8th Nordic Geographers Meeting: Sustainable Geography-Geographies of Sustainability  
Trondheim, Norway  
June 16-19, 2019**

The term 'sustainable development' has become part of our everyday vocabulary, especially after the World Commission on Environment and Development published its report *Our Common Future* in 1987. As a result of the Commission's report, the consequences of economic developments for all living systems, was explicitly put on the agenda. Thus, through sustainable development economic growth and long-term environmental concerns were configured as compatible and in fact complementary with securing a sustainable common future. While the notions of sustainable development and sustainability have received widespread criticism for being all-encompassing, apolitical and elitist, they are still very much part of the rhetorical 'weaponry' mobilized, now often in combination with the terms green economy and green growth, to describe and prescribe why and how to deal with contemporary and future global challenges.

Sustainable Geography – Geographies of Sustainability provide opportunities to engage with ideas of sustainability within geographical scholarship, the politics of sustainability beyond the academy and the shifting discipline of geography itself. At the 8th Nordic Geographers Meeting in Trondheim we ask: What are the emerging challenges across the world and what role should or could the discipline of geography play in addressing and solving them, both within and beyond the academy? What emotions, behaviours, moralities, powers, transformations, hopes, grieves and responsibilities at different scales are implicated in thinking and acting sustainably? To what extent are our conceptual and methodological toolkits attuned to the shifting geographies of sustainability of the world today? Resources are distributed based on historically unmatched levels of inequality. Are we, then, at a point in time where 'our uncommon future' is becoming an increasingly apt diagnosis? What alternative agendas and concepts are emerging that challenge or complement sustainability as a problem formulation and agenda for the future?

For more information: <https://www.ntnu.edu/geography/ngm-2019>

**26th International Conference of Europeanists "Sovereignties in Contention: Nations, Regions and Citizens in Europe"  
Madrid, Spain  
June 20-22, 2019**

Sovereignty is at the crux of current developments in Europe and at the center of political debate—of which the 2016 referendum on Brexit is just one example. The claim to regain national sovereignty vis-a-vis EU policy-making is common to populist movements throughout Europe today, and it currently dominates the rhetoric of the national governments of Hungary and Poland as well. Anxieties about sovereignty are also key to understanding the demands put forward by regional entities such as Scotland, Catalonia, and Lombardy.

These fights for new forms of sovereignty – or the restoration of old ones – are surprising, even



bewildering, to those who imagined that the process of European integration would render the concept of sovereignty obsolete. Yet recent developments clearly show that sovereignty again has become a crucial concept in political, social and cultural fields. It is increasingly invoked not only by regions, nations, and Europe itself, but also by minority populations, marginalized groups, and even individuals as the reason justifying their claims of self-governance, emancipation, or political empowerment.

Recent developments and the material challenges that complicate them – globalization, the digital revolution, mobility – call upon us to reflect on the motives, politics, concepts, and rhetorics of sovereignty more profoundly and, given the complexity of the challenges, to seek fresh approaches that transcend disciplinary boundaries. “Sovereignities in Contention in Europe: Nations, Regions and Citizens” aims to provide an opportunity to bridge the gap between different models for the study of sovereignty: from a governmental and institutional perspective to looking at bottom-up processes, from socio-economic and legal aspects to questions of identity, nationhood, and historical memory.

We particularly welcome proposals in these areas, including cross-thematic and interdisciplinary papers, as well as proposals in other areas relevant to contemporary Europe.

For more information: <https://www.regionalstudies.org/opportunities/call-for-papers-26th-international-conference-of-europeanists-sovereignities/>

**Conference on Societies and Spaces in Contact: Between Convergence and Divergence  
Portorož-Portorose, Slovenia  
September 16-19, 2019**

The Conference is organized in cooperation with the Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana (Slovenia) and the Slovene Research Institute in Trieste (Italy), and will seek the participation of both the Italian minority in Istria and the Slovene minority in Italy. The Conference is open to scholars of various disciplines who may contribute to the analysis of the various (geo)political, cultural, social, linguistic and economic aspects related to divergence and convergence processes in contact areas, and (re)integration perspectives and policies in multicultural and border regions. The aim of the Conference is to give an assessment of past developments and conflict resolutions, an analysis of current situations and problems concerning minority protection approaches, language planning, spatial and social cross-border and inter-cultural integration/disintegration policies and issues, and an evaluation of the future trends and opportunities for co-operation and development within a local and broader operational context.

Papers should consider the following main Conference Themes:

- European national and regional minorities: from territorialities of exclusion to territorialities of inclusion
- Policies for cultural diversity and social integration within a multilevel decisional context
- Migrants and “new minorities”: factor of conflict or development potential?
- Spatial and social transformations in contact areas: towards an integrated approach
- Cross-border cooperation and planning: past experiences and future trends
- The perception of the “other”: mental maps and narratives
- Cultural diversity, multiculturalism, and education: language policies and societal building

For more information: [http://www.homeofgeography.org/uk/events\\_2018/2019%20Societies%20Spaces%20Contact%202019.pdf](http://www.homeofgeography.org/uk/events_2018/2019%20Societies%20Spaces%20Contact%202019.pdf)

## Unbral Fronteiras

### Open Access Repository of Brazilian Border Studies

The diffusion of the academic papers and scientific data allows better-documented researches and improved border management. Unbral Fronteiras is a repository that hosts academic articles dealing with international limits and borders of Brazil, built on information open access concepts. We gather and organize journal articles and theses published by Brazilian researchers and investigation centers. This collection is permanently updated and expanded.

Unbral Fronteiras also classifies and analyzes the contents on the Brazilian borders, identifying thematic frameworks at work in this production. Metrics indicators and analysis of data are published at the Anuário Unbral das Fronteiras Brasileiras since 2013.



**Network of Researchers on Brazilian Borders:** Unbral Fronteiras helps to build a digital network of scientific collaboration between universities. The consistent relationship among researchers who study Brazilian boundaries through the website and email list congregates institutions and researchers group, helps to promote events and publications.

**Team:** Geographers, Communication and Information scientists, GIS experts and internationalists at different points of their career work together.

**Coordinator:** Dr. Prof. Adriana Dorfman

**Vice-coordinator:** Dra. Karla Maria Muller

**Fiscal:** Dra. Tânia Marques Strohaecker

**Information Science:** Dr. Rafael Port da Rocha GIS: Heinrich Hasenack

**Researchers:** Dra. Dulce Mazer - Dra. Vera Spacil Raddatz - Me. Thais Leobeth dos Santos - Me. Ronaldo Botelho - Bruna Bianchi Cagliari - Cátia Froehlich

**Junior researchers:** Vithor Amaral Prestes - Luisa Amato Caye - Edgar Garcia Velozo - Laura Vedovatto del Pino



Bento Gonçalves, 9500 - Porto Alegre - RS – Brazil

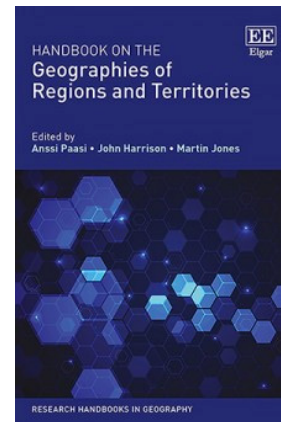
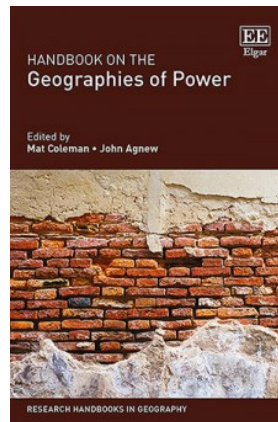
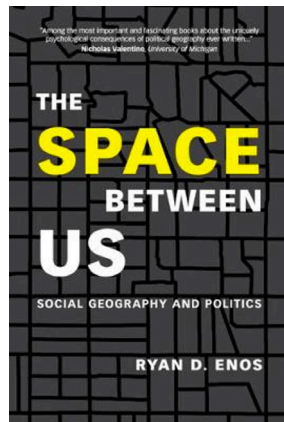
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Email: [unbralfronteiras@ufrgs.br](mailto:unbralfronteiras@ufrgs.br)

## Publications



### **Space between Us: Social Geography and Politics** **Ryan Enos | Cambridge University Press | 2017**

The *Space between Us* brings the connection between geography, psychology, and politics to life. By going into the neighborhoods of real cities, Enos shows how our perceptions of racial, ethnic, and religious groups are intuitively shaped by where these groups live and interact daily. Through the lens of numerous examples across the globe and drawing on a compelling combination of research techniques including field and laboratory experiments, big data analysis, and small-scale interactions, this timely book provides a new understanding of how geography shapes politics and how members of groups think about each other. Enos' analysis is punctuated with personal accounts from the field. His rigorous research unfolds in accessible writing that will appeal to specialists and non-specialists alike, illuminating the profound effects of social geography on how we relate to, think about, and politically interact across groups in the fabric of our daily lives. — Publisher

### **Handbook on the Geographies of Power** **Mat Coleman & John Agnew (Eds.) | Edward Elgar | 2018**

The so-called spatial turn in the social sciences means that many researchers have become much more interested in what can be called the spatialities of power, or the ways in which power as a medium for achieving goals is related to where it takes place. Most famous authors on the subject, such as Machiavelli and Hobbes, saw power as entirely equivalent to domination exercised by some over others. Though this meaning is hardly redundant, understandings of power have become more multidimensional and nuanced as a result of the spatial turn. Much recent writing in human geography, for example, has rigorously extended use of the term power beyond its typical understanding as a resource that pools up in some hands and some places to a medium of agency that has different effects depending on how it is deployed across space and how actors cooperate, or not, to give it effect. To address this objective, the book is organized thematically into four sections that cover the main areas in which much of the contemporary work on geographies of power is concentrated: bodies, economy, environment and energy, and war. — Publisher

### **Handbook on the Geographies of Regions and Territories** **Anssi Paasi, John Harrison, & Martin Jones (Eds.) | Edward Elgar | 2018**

This new international Handbook provides the reader with the most up-to-date and original viewpoints on critical debates relating to the rapidly transforming geographies of regions and territories,



as well as related key concepts such as place, scale, networks and regionalism. Bringing together renowned specialists who have extensively theorized these spatial concepts and contributed to rich empirical research in disciplines such as geography, sociology, political science and IR studies, this interdisciplinary collection offers fresh, cutting-edge, and contextual insights on the significance of regions and territories in today's dynamic world.

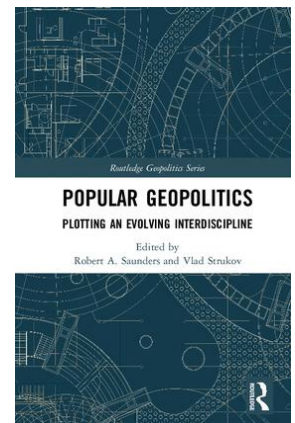
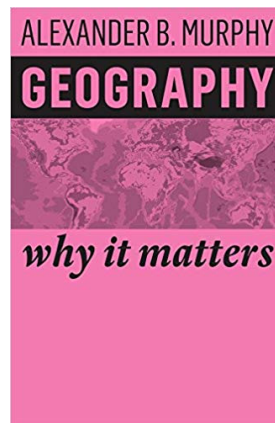
— Publisher

**The Geopolitics of Spectacle: Space, Synecdoche, and the New Capitals of Asia**  
**Natalie Koch | Cornell University Press | 2018**

Why do autocrats build spectacular new capital cities? In *The Geopolitics of Spectacle*, Natalie Koch considers how autocratic rulers use “spectacular” projects to shape state-society relations, but rather than focus on the standard approach—on the project itself—she considers the unspectacular “others.” The contrasting views of those from the poorest regions toward these new national capitals help her develop a geographic approach to spectacle.

Koch uses Astana in Kazakhstan to exemplify her argument, comparing that spectacular city with others from resource-rich, nondemocratic nations in central Asia, the Arabian Peninsula, and Southeast Asia. *The Geopolitics of Spectacle* draws new political-geographic lessons and shows that these spectacles can be understood only from multiple viewpoints, sites, and temporalities. Koch explicitly theorizes spectacle geographically and in so doing extends the analysis of governmentality into new empirical and theoretical terrain.

With cases ranging from Azerbaijan to Qatar and Myanmar, and an intriguing account of reactions to the new capital of Astana from the poverty-stricken Aral Sea region of Kazakhstan, Koch's book provides food for thought for readers in human geography, anthropology, sociology, urban studies, political science, international affairs, and post-Soviet and central Asian studies. — Publisher



**Ice: Nature and Culture**  
**Klaus Dodds | Chicago University Press | 2018**

In *Ice*, Klaus Dodds provides a wide-ranging exploration of the cultural, natural, and geopolitical history of this most slippery of subjects. Beyond Earth, ice has been found on other planets, moons, and meteors—and scientists even think that ice-rich asteroids played a pivotal role in bringing water to our blue home. But our outlook need not be cosmic to see ice's importance. Here today and gone tomorrow in many parts of the temperate world, ice is a perennial feature of polar and mountainous regions, where it has long shaped human culture. But as climates change, ice caps and glaciers

melt, and waters rise, more than ever this frozen force touches at the core of who we are.

As Dodds reveals, ice has played a prominent role in shaping both the earth's living communities and its geology. Throughout history, humans have had fun with it, battled over it, struggled with it, and made money from it—and every time we open our refrigerator doors, we're reminded how ice has transformed our relationship with food. Our connection to ice has been captured in art, literature, movies, and television, as well as made manifest in sport and leisure. In our landscapes and seascapes, too, we find myriad reminders of ice's chilly power, clues as to how our lakes, mountains, and coastlines have been indelibly shaped by the advance and retreat of ice and snow. Beautifully illustrated throughout, *Ice* is an informative, thought-provoking guide to a substance both cold and compelling.

— Publisher

### **Geography: Why It Matters**

**Alexander B. Murphy | Polity | 2018**

Ever since humans sketched primitive maps in the dirt, the quest to understand our surroundings has been fundamental to our survival. Studying geography revealed that the earth was round, showed our ancestors where to plant crops, and helped them appreciate the diversity of the planet. Today, the physical and social composition of the world is changing at an unprecedented pace, as a result of rising sea levels, deforestation, species extinction, rapid urbanization and mass migration. Modern technologies have brought people from across the globe into contact with each other, with enormous political and cultural consequences. As a subject concerned with how people, environments, and places are organized and interconnected, geography provides a critical window into where things happen, why they happen where they do, and how geographic context influences environmental processes and human affairs. These perspectives make the study of geography more relevant than ever, yet it remains little understood. In this engrossing book, Alec Murphy explains why geography is so important to the current moment. He invites readers to 'think geographically', casting a new light on familiar problems.

— Publisher

### **Promises of the Political: Insurgent Cities in a Post-Political Environment**

**Erik Swyngedouw | MIT Press | 2018**

In *Promises of the Political*, Erik Swyngedouw explores whether progressive and emancipatory politics is still possible in a post-political era. Activists and scholars have developed the concept of post-politicization to describe the process by which "the political" is replaced by techno-managerial governance. If the political domain has been systematically narrowed into a managerial apparatus in which consensual governance prevails, where can we find any possibility of a new democratic politics? Swyngedouw examines this question through the lens of recent urban insurgencies. In Zuccotti Park, Paternoster Square, Taksim Square, Tahrir Square, Hong Kong, and elsewhere, he argues, insurgents have gathered to choreograph new configurations of the democratic.

Swyngedouw grounds his argument in urban and ecological processes, struggles, and conflicts through which post-politicization has become institutionally entrenched. He casts "the city" and "nature" as emblematic of the construction of post-democratic modes of governance. He describes the disappearance of the urban polis into the politics of neoliberal planetary urbanization; and he argues that the political-managerial framing of "nature" and the environment contributes to the formation of depoliticized governance—most notably in the impotent politics of climate change. Finally, he explores the possibilities for a reassertion of the political, considering whether—after

the squares are cleared, the tents folded, and everyday life resumes—the urban uprisings of the last several years signal a return of the political.

— Publisher

### **Popular Geopolitics: Plotting an Evolving Interdiscipline**

**Robert A. Saunders & Vlad Strukov (Eds.) | Routledge | 2018**

This book brings together scholars from across a variety of academic disciplines to assess the current state of the subfield of popular geopolitics. It provides an archaeology of the field, maps the flows of various frameworks of analysis into (and out of) popular geopolitics, and charts a course forward for the discipline. It explores the real-world implications of popular culture, with a particular focus on the evolving interdisciplinary nature of popular geopolitics alongside interrelated disciplines including media, cultural, and gender studies. — Publisher

— Publisher



### **Handbook on the Geographies of Globalization**

**Robert C. Kloosterman, Virginie Mamadouh, and Pieter Terhorst (Eds.) | Edward Elgar | 2018**

Processes of globalization have changed the world in many, often fundamental, ways. Increasingly these processes are being debated and contested. This Handbook offers a timely, rich as well as critical panorama of these multifaceted processes with up-to-date chapters by renowned specialists from many countries. It comprises chapters on the historical background of globalization, different geographical perspectives (including world systems analysis and geopolitics), the geographies of flows (of people, goods and services, and capital), and the geographies of places (including global cities, clusters, port cities and the impact of climate change). — Publisher

### **Europese Kwesties**

**Virginie Mamadouh and Herman van der Wusten | Koninklijk Nederlands Aardrijkskundig Genootschap | 2018**

De Europese Unie is volop in beweging. Zowel binnen haar grenzen als daarbuiten - en ergens daar tussenin - zijn spannende ontwikkelingen gaande die ons in de komende jaren allemaal zullen raken. Dit boek geeft in 45 kwesties een rijk beeld van de historie, structuur en uitdagingen van de EU zoals wij haar heden ten dage kennen. Ruim 300 pagina's en 50 kaarten voorzien u van de achter-

grond en duiding die broodnodig zijn in dit verkiezingsjaar en daarna. — Publisher

**Geograficzno-polityczny atlas Polski**

**Marcin Wojciech Solarz and Jarosław Talacha | Trzecia Strona | 2018**

„Geograficzno-polityczny atlas Polski. Polska w świecie współczesnym” jest bogatym i wszechstronnym źródłem wiedzy o Polsce i Polakach. Pół tysiąca kolorowych map buduje całościowy obraz państwa i społeczeństwa w rocznicę odzyskania niepodległości. Podejmuje tematy związane z polityką wewnętrzną i zagraniczną, historią, społeczeństwem, kulturą i gospodarką. Dzięki równoczesnej polsko-angielskiej edycji Atlas przybliża Polskę także cudzoziemcom. Lektura obowiązkowa dla wszystkich zainteresowanych współczesną Polską.

“Atlas of Poland’s political geography. Poland in the modern world “is a rich and comprehensive source of knowledge about Poland and Poles. Half a thousand of colorful maps build a comprehensive picture of the state and society on the 100th anniversary of independence. It undertakes topics related to domestic and foreign policy, history, society, culture and economy. Thanks to the simultaneous Polish-English edition, the Atlas also brings Poland closer to foreigners. A must-read for everyone interested in contemporary Poland. — Publisher

**Vernacular Latin Americanisms: War, the Market, and the Making of a Discipline**

**Fernando Degiovanni | University of Pittsburg Press | 2018**

In *Vernacular Latin Americanisms*, Fernando Degiovanni offers a long-view perspective on the intense debates that shaped Latin American studies and still inform their function in the globalized and neoliberal university of today. By doing so he provides a reevaluation of a field whose epistemological and political status has obsessed its participants up until the present. The book focuses on the emergence of Latin Americanism as a field of critical debate and scholarly inquiry between the 1890s and the 1960s. Drawing on contemporary theory, intellectual history, and extensive archival research, Degiovanni explores in particular how the discourse and realities of war and capitalism have left an indelible mark on the formation of disciplinary perspectives on Latin American cultures in both the United States and Latin America. Questioning the premise that Latin Americanism as a discipline comes out of the tradition of continental identity developed by prominent intellectuals such as José Martí, José E. Rodó or José Vasconcelos, Degiovanni proposes that the scholars who established the discipline did not set out to defend Latin America as a place of uncontaminated spiritual values opposed to a utilitarian and materialist United States. Their mission was entirely different, even the opposite: giving a place to culture in the consolidation of alternative models of regional economic cooperation at moments of international armed conflict. For scholars theorizing Latin Americanism in market terms, this meant questioning nativist and cosmopolitan narratives about identity; it also meant abandoning any Bolivarian project of continental unity or of socialist internationalism. — Publisher



## Membership

### Co-Chair

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