

CALL FOR PAPERS

Paper session: “Borders and cities: perspectives from North America and Europe”

Sponsored by the Political Geography Specialty Group

Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting 2010

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Organizers

David Pijawka, Francisco Lara-Valencia, *School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, Arizona State University, USA*

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Concept and objectives

Borders always have the twofold function of separation and of serving as an interface. Over the last decades, the accelerating processes of globalization, the strengthening of regional integration, and the consolidation of supranational bodies have led to profound changes in the traditional functions of borders. National borders still have a role in differentiating political, economic and cultural systems, but they increasingly serve as an interface for promoting contacts, collaboration and hybridization within or between urban areas. In the same time, there has been a resurgence of cities and city-regions as new forms of economic and political organizations. Against this background, this paper session will focus on the changing relationships between borders and cities in a North American and European context.

In the session we wish to explore the following topics:

- The various forms of border agglomerations (from border cities to transfrontier metropolis...)
- The emergence of new forms of cross-border metropolitan governance
- The role of city networks in cross-border cooperation
- The border as a resource/barrier for urban economic development in a globalized world
- The cross-border city as a place of cultural hybridization
- The institutional responses to cross-border economic integration
- The role of borders in the production of specific urban morphologies

Joining the session

Both conceptual and empirical papers are welcome, and we look forward to receiving proposals that focus on different regions and contexts and make use of different approaches.

Interested participants should send an **abstract of max 250 words** to David Pijawka (pijawka@asu.edu) and Christophe Sohn (christophe.sohn@ceps.lu) no later than 27th October 2009.

Contributors will have to register for the conference and submit their abstract the regular way (through the AAG website: <http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2010/registration.htm>), and should then send the **registration code (PIN)** they receive to us. Please note that you have to submit the abstract **AND** also pay, and then your PIN is activated. We will then mention all registration codes that will be in our session.