



**Université Internationale
de Casablanca**

LAUREATE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES



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The questioning of borders: a new representation of the European reality

23rd International Scientific Conference of the PGV Network, Casablanca, 14-16 September 2017

This event will take place on the 14th, 15th and 16th of September 2017 at the International University of Casablanca (Laureate Universities) under the title:

The question of borders: a new representation of the European reality.

The call for communication includes a preamble, a structure and the call itself.

Preamble

The Schengen area, born over thirty years ago, has now been called into question. With the BREXIT, the influx of refugees and migrants, the increase in threats to security, the EU is entering a new reality that challenges its borders. From now on, the question of the borders of the European Union arises in terms of a new representation of the European reality.

How does Community Europe think itself? What are the points of view of the member states, but also of certain external countries with particular links to the EU (candidate countries, associated countries...)?

Beyond the points of view which may differ from one state to another, the displacement of Europe's internal and external borders calls into question its internal strategy (its economy, its governance and its social life) and its external strategy (Enlargement, neighborhood policies, North-South cooperation).

Structure of the conference

The Casablanca conference has three themes which will be dealt with by three commissions.

1. The European Union and its borders

Theme 1 focuses on the historical and conceptual dimensions of the notion of frontier: pluralism and differentiation of forms of boundaries (political, cultural, imaginary, displaced ...), evolutionary character ...

The question of borders if it is confirmed will call into question the EU strategy. What changes for the European Union (new ambitions, pursuit or abandonment of enlargements, engagement in conflict zones, polycentrism, protectionism, deconstruction)?

2. Which actor's strategies?

How do economic, political and social actors at different scales (from local to global) participate in building and deconstructing borders?

How are they involved and what roles do they play in the processes of cooperation or protection, in the environmental struggle, in the strategies of expansion, regrouping, regional agreements ...?

Three types of actors are involved:

Companies

How do European companies manage borders in the face of commercial or human opportunities or threats, and in terms of competitiveness or alliances?

How do third country companies perceive Europe, its markets, its industrial fabric and decide to invest in it?

Consumers and Markets

What changes in behavior are induced by the question of borders? What marketing strategies are accompanying these changes? How do the new distribution modes and new offers (Airbnb, Uber, crowdfunding, Bla Bla cars ...) alter the situation?

Societies

To what extent will the changes in the EU's borders affect societies, civil society actors and political strategies (emergence of new identities, alterities, solidarity, etc.)?

What impact on imaginary and cultural horizons, on linguistic borders (disappearance, stakes in plurilingualism, etc.)?

3. Is BREXIT a sign of a Europe in the process of deconstruction?

Is BREXIT a revealer of the difficulty of satisfying incompatible interests (federalism and sovereignty)?

Does BREXIT call into question major elements of European construction:

- frontiers: natural, internal, external, historical, displacement of borders
- the treaties, powers and discourses on Europe (how will the flows of trade be organized will it be necessary to rethink the treaties)
- the aims (protection against external threats, a springboard for multinational companies to set up in other markets)
- representations (how does the Community of Europe think of itself)
- what are the views of the member states, certain external countries - candidate countries, associated countries ...)?

Call for papers

Proposals must first be sent in summarized form (1 page max) to the e-mail address of the coordinator of the host university¹ and the coordinator of the network² by **31 January 2017**. The standardized articles will be requested By **30 April 2017**.

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