Workshop series programme

Funded by the Joint Committee for Nordic research councils in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NOS-HS)

The three workshops include some overlaps in geographic and chronological scope but broadly move from a more historical to a more contemporary focus over the two years of the project. There will be more of a focus on theoretical development in the first workshop, the findings of which can then be applied to the concrete cases in the second, while the practical and policy implications of these findings are more in evidence in the third workshop.

September 2016, Joensuu, Finland – End of Empire and competing interests at the border

The first workshop will be mostly historical in content and will focus on the development of theoretical and conceptual approaches to understanding the consequences of changing international borders. The workshop will start with discussion of some border changes between land Empires from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, before moving on to focusses on the collapse of Empires at the end of the First World War, the consequences of the end of colonial rule in Africa and southern Asia after the second world war, and some of the enduring issues resulting from the collapse of the Soviet Union. A focus on possible conflicts of interest between local actors, new state governments, and nationalists will inform the theoretical discussion, which starts from recent challenges to the predominant national paradigm of modern states.

Presentations will include these topics:

- Planning for the break-up of the Russian Empire (Alexander Semyonov, HSE St Petersburg)
- The new Finnish-Russian border and the Finnish Civil War (Pasi Tuunainen, UEF)
- Non-nationalism and the end of the Habsburg Empire (Pieter Judson, European University Institute)
- Competing Cultural Narratives in Krakow during the late Habsburg Empire (Inge Eriksson, Malmö)
- The delimitation of the Middle East after the fall of the Ottoman Empire (Vicken Cheterian, Webster University)
- New border concepts in the post-Soviet space (Jeremy Smith, UEF)
- Effects on mobility of new Central Asian borders (Elina Troscenko, Bergen)
- "Novorossiya" and Ukraine in contemporary Russian discourse (Bo Petersson, Malmö)
- Post-Imperial bordering of Southeast Asia (Jiansheng Huang, Yunnan National University)

March 2017, Malmö, Sweden – Rebordering the Nordic world

A clearly defined geographic focus provides the opportunity to apply the theoretical and comparative perspectives derived in the first workshop to our region. The focus is largely historical (Denmark/Germany, Finland/Sweden/Russia, separation of Sweden/Norway) but with some contemporary relevance as well (EU changing nature of interstate borders, developments

on the Finnish-Russian border in the light of end of cold war, EU expansion, Ukraine crisis, and the impact of 'The Bridge'). Attention is also paid here to non-state regional borders.

Presentations will include:

- Changes to the status of Finland and its borders through agreements between Sweden and Russia (Ilkka Liikanen, UEF)
- Changing perceptions of Danish-German borders (Steen Bo Frandsen, SDU)
- Vyborg as a place-changing border town (Kimmo Katajala, UEF
- Emotional impacts of the loss of Finnish territory to the Soviet Union (Jani Karhu, UEF)
- The road from Danish EC membership in 1970 towards efforts at reintegrating the Danish-German border region (Martin Klatt, SDU)
- The political participation of trans-national citizens: A comparative study of the Nordic States (Derek Hutcheson, Malmö)
- Museum exhibitions on migration in the Nordic world: Consolidating or contesting borders? (Christina Johansson, Malmö)
- What makes a region integrated? The case of Greater Copenhagen (Marlene Paulin Kristensen, University of Copenhagen)
- Constructing the Öresund Region (Christer Persson, Malmö)

October 2017, Bergen, Norway - Policies and Practises of Partition

Here we will explore some conceptual issues around questions such as what essential differences are there between partitions imposed as a result of post-imperial developments, voluntary separation, and partitions resulting from civil wars? There will be more of a policy-oriented emphasis applicable to contemporary issues while drawing on the historical lessons. The efforts of international agencies in dealing with the consequences of changing borders, as well as the existing international norms in this area, will be discussed.

Presentations will include:

- Forced resettlement of Germans after WWII (Hans-Åke Persson, Roskilde University)
- Borderland dynamics in the Horn of Africa (Munzoul Assai, University of Khartoum)
- Consequences of the partition of Sudan (Leif Manger)
- Affective Borderscapes: Hidden geographies of undocumented African border crossings in Europe (Ioanna Tsoni, Malmö)
- The quasi-independence of Kosovo and its geopolitical consequences (Jaume Castan Pinos, SDU)
- Identities in conflict: lessons from former Yugoslavia (Dorte Jagetic, SDU)
- Migration and trade across new Central Asian borders (Paul Fryer and Joni Virkkunen, UEF)
- Unresolved post-Soviet border disputes in the South Caucasus (Nino Kemoklidze)
- Anthropological understandings of new border regions in Central Asia (Madeleine Reeves, University of Manchester)