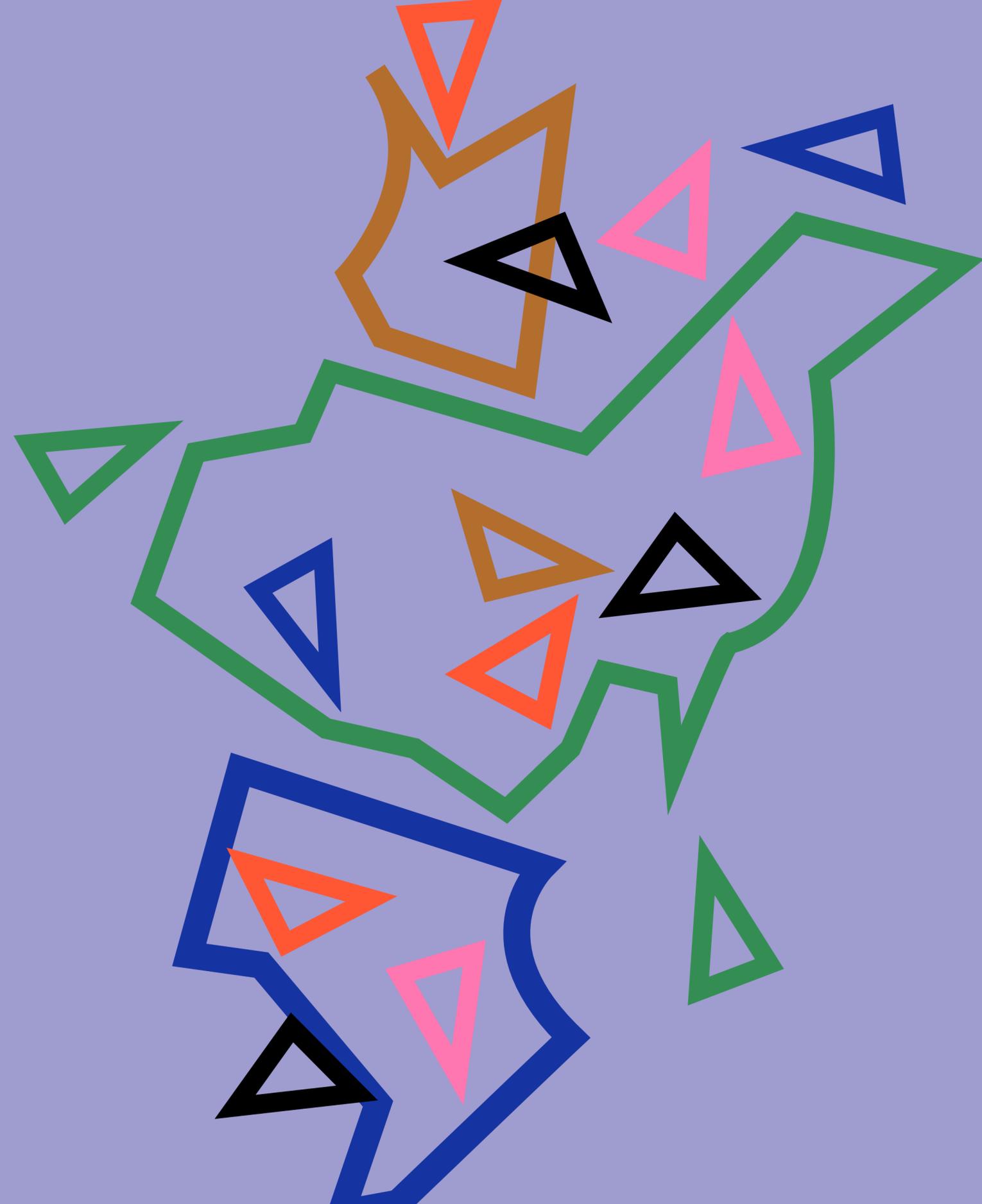


# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

5–6 March 2026

Centrum Konferencyjne Zielna / Conference Center Zielna  
Zielna 37, 00-108 WARSZAWA



**b — shapes**  
Borders Shaping  
Perceptions of European Societies



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THURSDAY, 5 MARCH

# *Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times*

8.00–9.00

**REGISTRATION**

9.00–9.30

**OPENING ADDRESSES** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

**Iga Raczyńska** (ENRS),  
**Martin Klatt** (B-SHAPES),  
**Nicole Colin** (NARDIV)

9.30–10.15

**OPENING KEYNOTE** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

**Michał Matlak Lukaszewicz** – Institute of Innovation and Technology (ITECH), Warsaw:  
**EUROPE IN TIMES OF  
GEOPOLITICAL UPHEAVAL**

10.15–10.30

**COFFEE BREAK** (WYSTAWOWA)

10.30–11.15

**KEYNOTE** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

**Magdalena Wróblewska**,  
Director of the State Ethnographic Museum,  
assistant professor, University of Warsaw  
**DECOLONIAL NARRATIVES IN MUSEUMS  
IN THE CONTEXT OF CENTRAL AND  
EASTERN EUROPE. THE CASE STUDY  
OF THE STATE ETHNOGRAPHIC  
MUSEUM IN WARSAW**

11.15–12.30

**ROUNDTABLE** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

**NARRATED FROM THE CENTRES,  
LIVED AT THE BORDERS: WHAT UNITES  
AND DIVIDES EUROPE TODAY?**

**Alice Engl** (Eurac Research),  
**Beata Ociepka** (University of Wrocław),  
**Joanna Orłoś** (ENRS)

**Moderators:**

**Hynek Böhm** (Technical University of Liberec),  
**Elżbieta Opiłowska** (University of Wrocław)

12.30–13.30

**LUNCH** (WYSTAWOWA)

13.30–17.00

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

THURSDAY, 5 MARCH

# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

13.30–15.15 | **S1** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

## NARRATIVES I

**CHAIR:** **Marcus Nicolson** (Eurac Research)

1. **Elżbieta Opilowska, Łukasz Moll** (University of Wrocław):  
*The Power of Narratives?*  
*De-/Reborderings Europe seen from borderlands*
2. **Martin Klatt, Thomas Kaarsted, Mette Fentz Hastrup**  
(University of Southern Denmark):  
*Citizen Science in B-SHAPES:*  
*bottom-up involvement of borderlanders*
3. **Valentina Rodani, Alice Buoli, Isabella Traeger** (Politecnico di Milano):  
*Exploring Alternative European Futures by Co-Design: The legacy of*  
*the “Borderless” Narratives of Nova Gorica Gorizia ECoC 2025*
4. **Alice Buoli** (Politecnico di Milano), **Ingrid Kofler** (Free University of  
Bozen-Bolzano), **Raffaella Coletti** (National Research Council of Italy -  
Institute for the Study of Regionalism, Federalism and Self-Government):  
*Functional or Social Proximity?*  
*Everyday Narratives from Italian Cross-Border Regions*
5. **Sandra Hagelin** (University of Tartu):  
*States speaking borders: entangled borders in governmental*  
*communication*

13.30–15.15 | **S2** (EUROPA)

## BORDERS AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION THEORY I

**CHAIR:** **Alessandro Ambrosino** (Zentrum für Regionalgeschichte Brixen /  
Centro di storia regionale Bressanone)

1. **Sara Svensson** (University of Halmstad), **Katja Sarmiento-Mirwaldt**  
(Brunel University of London), **Pierrick Bruyas** (University of Upper Alsace):  
*Cross-border politics?*  
*Party campaigning and collaboration in border regions*
2. **Borut Klabjan** (Science and Research Centre Koper):  
*Helsinki before Helsinki: Cross-border Cooperation at*  
*the Italo-Slovene Border from the Cold War to Post-Schengen Europe*
3. **Catalina Balan** (University of Bucharest):  
*Cultural Borders of Europe:*  
*French Soft Power in Shaping Post-Communist Romania*
4. **Stefanie Gerstenberger** (Technical University Dresden):  
*When Places Lose People:*  
*The Democratic Consequences of Demographic Decline*
5. **Elisabeth Donat** (University of Continuing Education Krems):  
*The Boundaries of Belonging: Openness, Closure,*  
*and Non-Belonging in 12 European regions*

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# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

13.30–15.15 | **S3** (BIBLIOTEKA)

## DE-BORDERING EUROPE WHILE DE-COLONIZING DISCOURSES

**CHAIR:** Catherine Teissier (Aix Marseille University)

1. **Beata Ociepka, Julia Trzcińska** (University of Wrocław):  
*Colonial narratives and frames used by media in the East and the West of Europe after 2004*
2. **Pierre-Frédéric Weber** (University of Szczecin):  
*Narratives on the past in Polish-German relations*
3. **Christian Noack** (University of Amsterdam):  
*Narratives on the past in Polish-Ukrainian relations*
4. **Beata Ociepka** (University of Wrocław):  
*Colonial narratives in cultural diplomacy in Europe*

15.15-15.30 | **COFFEE BREAK** (WYSTAWOWA)

15.30–17.00 | **S4** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

## BORDERS AND MINORITIES. Special panel for PhD students sponsored by the German Polish Science Foundation

**CHAIR:** Vello Pettai (European Centre for Minority Issues)

1. **Bacho Bitari Khuroshvili** (University of Wrocław):  
*The fall of Anti-discrimination Policy in Georgia: how the government uses the minorities to increase Euroscepticism and suppress Protests*
2. **Olga Jerjomina** (Witten/Herdecke University):  
*When Do Linguistic Identities Become Politically Salient? Institutional Language Status and Borderland Contexts in Europe*
3. **Weronika Koston** (University of Opole):  
*Between border and bridge: The role of minorities in cross-border paradiplomacy*
4. **Krystyna Shelvakh** (Opole University):  
*Negotiating Local Identities in Crisis: Polish Minority Organizations in Ukraine*

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# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

15.30–17.00 | **S5** (BIBLIOTEKA)

## BORDERLANDS AS REGIONS OF POSSIBILITY – EDUCATIONAL AND ARTISTIC PROJECTS IN BORDER REGIONS

**CHAIRS:** Joanna Orlos (ENRS), Marion Oberhofer (Lungomare)

1. **Angelika Burtscher** (Lungomare):  
*Artistic and curatorial research through the prism of borders*
2. **Lea Spahn** (University of Marburg):  
*Walking Embodied Methodology – Artistic Intervention  
– Cultural Practice*
3. **Urszula Bijoś** (ENRS):  
*How do borders shape our perception?  
Takeaways from the B-Shapes Summer School  
for teachers and educators (Zgorzelec/Görlitz2025)*
4. **Alexandra Grochowski** (Meetingpoint Görlitz):  
*Borders of Memory. German-Polish Cooperation  
at the Memorial Site Stalag VIII-A in Görlitz/Zgorzelec*

15.30–17.00 | **S6** (EUROPA)

## FROM RESEARCH TO POLITICAL AND SOCIETAL IMPACT

**CHAIR:** Martin Guillermo-Ramirez (AEBR)

1. **Andrzej Jakubowski** (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University),  
**Tomasz Komornicki** (Polish Academy of Sciences):  
*Cross-border mobility under external shocks:  
the experience of Poland's eastern border*
2. **Laurie Trautman**  
(Border Policy Research Institute, Western Washington University):  
*How 'crises' and emergency powers are re-shaping cross-border mobility  
and collaboration: The example of the Canada - United States borderlands*
3. **Oksana Pochapska**  
(Kamianets-Podilskyi Ivan Ohlenko National University):  
*Borderland Memories and Hybrid Identities: Narratives of Europe  
in Ukrainian-Polish Media Discourse during Wartime"*
4. **Joanna Kurowska-Pysz** (KREATUS Ltd. WSB University): *Inclusive  
borderland heritage management - bridging people, building future*

18.00

**RECEPTION** hosted by University of Wrocław  
and University of Southern Denmark  
Restaurant Aioli, Świętokrzyska 18

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8.30 – 10.30 | **S7** (BIBLIOTEKA)

## BORDERLANDS AS SHAPED SPACES

**CHAIR:** Hynek Böhm (Technical University of Liberec)

1. **Loris Pagnani, Jerome Jakob, Kamil Bembnista** (Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research):  
*Common Ground? Founding Myths and the Imaginaries of Europeanization in Cross-Border Regions*
2. **Ingrid Kofler** (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano):  
*Alpine Borderscapes at the Italy-Austria and South Tyrol-Trentino Borders*
3. **Ádám Labáth** (Eötvös Loránd University):  
*Spaces of Liminality in Northern Ireland: Identities, Politics and Symbolic space*
4. **Catherine Teissier** (Aix Marseille University):  
*Collaborating across borders. Polizeiruf 110 (Świecko) and the visualisation of a shared space*
5. **Jerome Jakob, Christophe Sohn** (Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research):  
*The border as a semiotic resource for shaping spatial imaginaries. The case of Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice*

8.30 – 10.30 | **S8** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

## BORDERS AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION THEORY II

**CHAIR:** Elżbieta Opilowska (University of Wrocław)

1. **Dorte Jagetic Andersen** (University of Southern Denmark):  
*Opaque Europe - moving towards alternative understandings of diversity, agency and participation*
2. **Isabella Traeger** (Politecnico di Milano):  
*Transboundary Maritime Spatial Planning as a borderscaping practice: cooperation, integration and power asymmetries in the Northern Adriatic context*
3. **Estelle Evrard** (University of Luxembourg):  
*From integration to inequality: place attachment in a functionally specialised cross-border region*
4. **Evy Romejn, Martin van der Velde** (Radboud University Nijmegen):  
*Border Controls, Cross border Mobility and Border Perceptions*
5. **Carlos López Gómez** (Universidad Antonio de Nebrija):  
*A border that is not a border: post-Brexit Gibraltar and the European Union*

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# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

8.30–10.30 | **S9** (EUROPA)

## BORDERS AND MUSEUMS I

**CHAIRS:** Ekaterina Mikhailova (Université Grenoble Alpes),

Karolina Radlowska (University of Bialystok)

1. **Alexandra Budabin** (Eurac Research):  
*Museum Strategies for Re-or De-bordering Minority Groups in a Borderland Region*
2. **Ekaterina Mikhailova** (University of Tromsø):  
*Remembering and Forgetting at the Skolt Sámi Museum: Between Lieux de Mémoire and Lieux d'Oubli*
3. **Karolina Radlowska** (University of Bialystok):  
*The Category of Kresy (Polish Eastern Borderlands) and Its Museum Representations*
4. **Henri Haase** (University of Southern Denmark):  
*The potential of corporate museums in processes of debordering. A qualitative analysis in the German-Danish borderland.*
5. **Natalia Niedźwiecka-Iwańczak, Julita Makaro** (University of Wrocław):  
*The border dividing towns in museum narratives-based on towns divided by the Polish-German and Polish-Czech borders*

10.30-10.45 | **COFFEE BREAK** (WYSTAWOWA)

10.45–12.30 | **S10** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

## EUROSCEPTICISM IN BORDER REGIONS

**CHAIR:** Estelle Evrard (University of Luxembourg)

1. **Katja Sarmiento-Mirwaldt** (Brunel University of London):  
*Euroscepticism in border regions: From elections to narratives and back*
2. **Birte Wassenberg** (University of Strasbourg),  
**Pierrick Bruyas** (University of Upper Alsace):  
*European narratives and regional identity at the Franco-German border (Upper Rhine and Greater Region)*
3. **Hynek Böhm** (Technical University of Liberec):  
*Cross-border Cooperation and Euroscepticism in Peripheral Regions: Paradox of Integration at the Czech-Polish-German Border*
4. **Artur Boháč** (Technical University of Liberec),  
**Marie Cvikova** (University of Ostrava):  
*The Turów Mine Dispute as a Catalyst of Eurosceptic Moods in the Czech-Polish Borderland*

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# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

10.45 – 12.30 | **S11** (EUROPA)

## MINORITIES IN BORDER REGIONS I

**CHAIR:** Martin Klatt (University of Southern Denmark/ECMI)

1. **Johanna Mitterhofer, Marcus Nicolson** (Eurac Research):  
*Everyday borderlands: Investigating views of the border from a national minority perspective*
2. **Velo Pettai** (European Centre for Minority Issues):  
*Narva as a minority-majority border city caught in geopolitical crisis*
3. **Małgorzata Bieńkowska** (University of Białystok):  
*Border/Migration Crisis on the Polish-Belarusian Frontier and Its Consequences for Local Minorities*
4. **Katalin Kovály** (Transcarpathian Hungarian University, HUN-REN Geographical Institute):  
*Transnational Processes in the Ukrainian-Hungarian border region before and after the war*
5. **Ioan Suhov** (Dublin City University):  
*Mediatizing the Romanian Minority in Ukraine: Narratives, Propaganda, and Borderland Identities during the 2022 Russian War on Ukraine*

10.45 – 12.30 | **S12** (BIBLIOTEKA)

## NARRATIVES OF EUROPEAN BORDER-AND CROSS-BORDER SPACES

**CHAIR:** Peter Balogh (Eotvos Lorand University)

1. **Marcin Dębicki** (University of Wrocław),  
**Jiri Travnicek** (Czech Academy of Sciences/Masaryk University):  
*Czech media narratives on Poland. A mid-2025 perspective based on selected examples*
2. **Ruairidh Tarvet** (University of Edinburgh):  
*A Sign of the Times: a comparative analysis of recent changes to national symbols and anthems in present day Denmark and Slovakia*
3. **Marco Simonetti** (University of Helsinki):  
*Redefining Borders through Memory: The Institutionalization of the Great Patriotic War in the "Donetsk People's Republic" (2014-2022)*
4. **Anna Glew** (University of Liverpool):  
*Ukrainian Popular Music After Russia's 2022 Full-scale Invasion: Placing Ukraine on the Map of Europe*
5. **Aniela Bochenska** (University of Warsaw):  
*Biographical Interviews as individual paths of big change: The Post-State Agricultural Farm Space in the Experiences of Women from the Pieniężno Commune*

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12.30–13.30 | **LUNCH** (WYSTAWOWA)

13.30–15.00 | **S13** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

## BORDER LANDSCAPES AS HERITAGE I

**CHAIR:** Eeva-Kaisa Prokkola (University of Oulu)

1. **Eeva-Kaisa Prokkola** (University of Oulu):  
*Intergenerational border as a method for analysing border landscape as heritage*
2. **Kamilla Biskupska** (University of Wrocław):  
*Debordering and rebordering in the cultural landscape of the Polish 'Recovered Territories' in the narratives of the third generation of residents*
3. **Iuliia Eremenko** (University of Kassel):  
*Borders, Heritage, and Urban Planning: Görlitz and Zgorzelec in Transformation*
4. **Alessandro Ambrosino**  
(Zentrum für Regionalgeschichte / Centro di storia regionale):  
*Everyday Mobility in the Alps-Adriatic Borderscape: The case of the Propusnica (1955-2009)*

13.30–15.00 | **S14** (EUROPA)

## BORDERS AND MUSEUMS II

**CHAIR:** Virpi Kaisto (University of Eastern Finland)

1. **Kamil Bembnista**  
(Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research):  
*From Margins to Museums: Co-Constructing Border Narratives through Participatory Visual Methods*
2. **Tobias de Fønss Wung-Sung** (Museum Southern Jutland):  
*From Division to Diversity: Narrative Strategies in the Borderland Museum*
3. **Angelika Burtscher, Katja Anguelova, Marion Oberhofer**  
(Lungomare):  
*Through the Prism of Borders – Five artistic interventions within the collaborative research project B-SHAPES*

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# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

13.30–15.00 | **S15** (BIBLIOTEKA)

## POST-COLONIAL NARRATIVES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

**CHAIR:** Christian Noack (University of Amsterdam)

1. **Julita Komosa** (Polish Academy of Sciences):  
*The Idea of the Canonical Territory of the Russian Orthodox Church as an Example of a Postcolonial Dependency*
2. **Liliana Tymchenko** (European Humanities University):  
*Terminological Debordering:  
Rethinking Europe from the Epistemic Margins*
3. **Justyna Arendarska** (University of Wrocław):  
*Polish Political Discourses on the Three Seas Initiative:  
Competing Narratives of Europe in Times of Uncertainty*

15.00–15.15 | **COFFEE BREAK** (WYSTAWOWA)

15.15–16.45 | **S16** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

## NARRATIVES BORDERS AND MIGRATION

**CHAIR:** Birte Wassenberg (University of Strasbourg)

1. **Katarzyna Jendrzey** (University of Duisburg-Essen):  
*Children's narratives: Knowledge and constructions of migration, European space, and their self-positioning in Poland, Europe, and the world*
2. **Joachim Umlauf** (Goethe Institut),  
**Nicole Umlauf-Colin** (Aix-Marseille Université):  
*Sold Homeland - The Suppressed History of Romanian-German Emigrants as a European Border Narrative (1)*
3. **Saida Latmani** (Université Abdelmalek Essâadi):  
*Dynamiques identitaires et sociales des migrants subsahariens en situation irrégulière dans les régions frontalières du Maroc*
4. **Katarzyna Jędrzejczyk-Kuliniak** (University of Wrocław):  
*Old and new fears:  
Migration Pact in Poland's post-2023 political landscape*

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# Narratives of Europe in Uncertain Times

15.15 – 16.45 | **S17** (EUROPA)

## BORDERLANDSCAPE AS HERITAGE II

**CHAIR:** Dominika Mikolajczyk (University of Groningen)

1. **Fredrika Jakola-Ylilauri** (University of Oulu):  
*Understanding feelings of belonging in border landscapes through entanglements of place-based public and personal narratives*
2. **Marike Flömer, Veronika Warzycha**  
(Leibniz Institute for Research on Space and Society):  
*Fractured Narratives and Persistent Memories: Border Memory in Everyday Life at Internal European Borders*
3. **Jakub Grochowski** (University of Opole):  
*Phantom borders as a landscape for current silesian minority*

15.15 – 16.45 | **S18** (BIBLIOTEKA)

## MINORITIES AND BORDER REGIONS II

**CHAIR:** Laurie Trautman (Border Policy Research Institute)

1. **Barbara Riman** (Institute for Ethnic Studies):  
*“Alive Croat, Dead Slovene”? The Slovenian Minority and the Emergence of the Slovenian-Croatian Border in 1991*
2. **Peter Balogh** (Eötvös Loránd University):  
*Shifting identities in the borderland? On the spatial identities of young ethnic Hungarians in southern Slovakia*
3. **Thomas Wegener Friis** (University of Southern Denmark):  
*Surveillance in the German-Danish Borderlands*
4. **Bjarge Schwenke Fors** (University of Tromsø):  
*Cultural Revitalization and Regional Integration in the Torne Valley*

16.45–17.00 | **CLOSING PLENARY** (WARSZAWA+BERLIN)

18.00–20.00 | **SEEING FROM THE BORDER, B-SHAPES**

documentary film by Zsuzsanna Simits

Kinoteka, Room 5,

Palace of Culture and Science, pl. Defilad 1