

***Special Session (SS09) on:  
Borders and Borderlands – Local,  
Regional, and Geopolitical  
Aspects***



**Organizers:**

**Péter Reményi** - University of Pécs, Hungary. Email: [remko@gamma.ttk.pte.hu](mailto:remko@gamma.ttk.pte.hu)

**Imre Nagy** - University of Novi Sad, Serbia.

**Haris Gekić** - University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Szilárd Rác** - Institute for Regional Studies, Pécs, Hungary.

**The purpose and scope of the special session**

The special session is focusing on the interplay between borders and regional development in a global context. Borders and borderlands are central conditioning factors of development and cooperation in local, regional, and global geopolitical contexts. In several regions worldwide they have undergone particularly dynamic processes in recent years, with unprecedented cross-border flows prior to the Covid pandemic. And despite Covid, borderlands have in many cases proved to be resilient, eliciting some support for facilitating local border-crossings. This contrasts with the recent situation at e.g. the EU's edges or in the Middle East, where borders again became places of hostilities, conflicts, or open wars.

This session welcomes contributions that deal with the different as well as changing impacts of borders on regional development, cross-border flows and cooperation in any form. It is open to theoretical and empirical foci, comparative and case studies, as well as qualitative and quantitative approaches.

Some more specific topics:

- Borders as development resources and as conditioning factors for development;
- Macroregions as borderlands (e.g. Central Europe, Southeast Europe, Middle East, etc.);
- Socio-economic cohesion in borderlands;
- European integration, Europeanisation, and changing geopolitical thinking at the margins of Europe;
- Neighborhoods and borderlands as case studies;
- Conflicts at borderlands and their impact on local and regional development.

*This session will be organized by the Borders and Borderlands Research Group of the Institute for Regional Studies and the Szentágothai Research Center of the University of Pécs.*

**SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT**