

## **Still *Eurolimes!***

**Ioan HORGA**  
**István SÜLI-ZAKAR**

**Abstract:** *On the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first issue of Eurolimes, we aim, on one hand, to make a retrospection of the conception and direction in research of the authors that have published in this journal's pages. Thus, these have evolved from a balanced optimism – specific to the years prior to the European economic boom and to the ending of the fifth process of the EU's enlargement, to a moderate optimism – developed in the context of the economic and financial crisis. On the other hand, in recent years and, particularly, in the context of the challenges determined by the Crimea's annexation and the war in Donbass, but especially by the refugees' crisis and the assault on the EU borders, it can be noticed a slight shift to pessimism in approaching the issue of the European borders. However, we express our confidence that the European borders will continue to have the feature of Eurolimes.*

**Key words:** Eurolimes, EU external borders, exclusive borders, inclusive frontiers

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## **Trans-border Cooperation in Europe: Lessons from an Early Experience**

**Willem MOLLE**

**Abstract:** *European Integration has profoundly changed the situation of regions at the internal borders of the European Union. From peripheral regions in a national context they could develop into more central regions in a European context. Drawing the advantages of this change in terms of socio-economic development is not easy and demands the cooperation of many actors. In this article we provide the case of an early experience in this respect; the Euregio Meuse-Rhin (EMR) in the period 1980-2000. The main lesson that can be learned from the EMR case for other parts of the EU is that development of cross-border cooperation is a long learning process. The development path depends very much on the specific configuration and motivation of the drivers for cooperation. Among them individual entrepreneurs with vision are needed to ignite developments. However, to get things really off the ground and realise durable change it has proved essential to be able to use significant and sustained European financial support for key initiatives.*

**Key words:** *Euregio, Interreg, University-business cooperation*

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# **Cross-border Police Cooperation in the Field of Road Traffic between Romania and Hungary. Case Study: Bihor and Hajdú-Bihar Counties**

*Alin-Ciprian GHERMAN*

**Abstract.** *This paper aims to investigate the cross-border police cooperation between Romania and Hungary in the field of road traffic through the so called 'actions in the mirror' and joint summer patrols. We perceive the Romanian-Hungarian bilateral cooperation, especially the cooperation between the traffic police inspectorates of Bihor and Hajdú-Bihar counties an example of good practice of cross-border police cooperation. We'll try to validate this hypothesis by examining the concrete forms of police cooperation in the field of road traffic between the two counties, namely: actions in the mirror, joint summer patrols and collaboration on reducing the number of accidents and deaths caused by road accidents. The work is confined to analyze the existing cooperation between the traffic police departments of Bihor County and of the neighboring Hajdú-Bihar, not involving the other Romanian counties (Timiș, Arad and Satu-Mare) bordering Hungarian counties, such as (Csongrád, Békés, Szabolcs-Szatmár).*

**Keywords:** *actions in the mirror, joint patrols, traffic offenses, road traffic deaths, traffic accidents*

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## **Efficiency of Executive Authorities Activity in the Sphere of Cross-Border Cooperation: Current State and the Ways of Improvement (at the Example of Ukraine)**

*Oksana TSISINSKA*  
*Anna MAKSYMENKO*

**Abstract.** *The article examines the existing experience of cooperation of regional management entities, in particular the executive authorities, in the sphere of cross-border cooperation along the Western border of Ukraine. In order to achieve the goals set up for the authors, the sociological research method of questionnaire survey was implemented. The regional management entities are the object of the research. They are the representatives of executive authorities of oblast (administrative unit in Ukraine) and regional level of Lvivska, Zakarpatska and Ivano-Frankivska oblasts (employees of regional and oblast state administrations of the following departments or divisions: education, culture and tourism, economy, international cooperation, civil defense, health care, infrastructure, etc) and of public organizations engaged in the sphere of cross-border cooperation and scientists examining theoretical and practical aspects of cross-border cooperation problems. The sample of executive authorities' representatives of oblast and regional level of the above mentioned oblasts were formed through probability zoned sampling. The sample of public organizations' representatives was formed through snowball sampling. The conducted*

*research has detected basic obstacles to efficient cross-border cooperation development, in particular: poor level of executive authorities' employees qualification in the sphere of cross-border cooperation, lack of financial maintenance, absence of informational and statistical maintenance, over-centralization of authorities, wrong division of responsibilities between the regional management structures in the region, inadequate legal maintenance on cross-border cooperation development, instability of managing apparatus activity (frequent elections, authorities' responsibilities alteration, etc.), misbalance of existing legislature of partnering states, etc. The authors have developed proposals over the improvement of the mechanisms of informational-statistical, organizational and institutional maintenance in the sphere of cross-border cooperation. In particular, proposals concern the initiatives over qualification level increase of the executive authorities' representatives and creation of coordinating or consulting center in order to form the data bases and monitor, support and implement cross-border programs and projects within the cross-border region, etc.*

**Keywords:** *Cross-border cooperation, regional management, regional management entities, regional management entities' cooperation mechanisms in terms of cross-border cooperation, cooperation instruments in the sphere of cross-border cooperation, executive authorities of Ukraine.*

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## **A Case for the Coexistence of Security and 'Open' Borders on the Polish-Russian Borderland**

*Stanisław DOMANIEWSKI  
Jussi LAINE*

**Abstract:** *Since the fall of communism in 1989 and the opening up of borders afterwards, the EU has had a number of anomalous and specific border cases. Each of these must be treated differently based on historical and geographic considerations. It must also be taken into account how these borders function concerning security matters. This paper looks at the Polish - Russian border and how it is being managed by the Republic of Poland. The paper argues that securitization and border permeability should not be thought of as competing forces. Instead they are part of a wider picture and should be treated as balancing forces. The paper likewise argues that Poland is maintaining a balancing act between these two forces by allowing both securitizing the border as it sees fit and allowing the legislation of the Small Border Traffic (SBT) zone to continue.*

**Keywords:** Poland, Russia, Kaliningrad, security, borders

# Canada – United States Border Security: Horizontal, Vertical and Cross-border Integration

*Todd HATALEY*

**Abstract:** *Border security along the Canada – United States border has evolved over the last century from conflict to cooperation to the current path of integration. The evolutionary process that has marked the development of border policy between Canada and the United States has a distinct institutional framework, whereby border security has developed along a specific pathway. Institutional momentum, and a commitment on the part of the current leaders, means integration will continue into the future. This will greatly change how security operations are conducted along the border, to the point where the border will become a zone of shared legal jurisdiction.*

**Keywords:** *border, security, management, Canada, United States*

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## Forms of Fragmentation or the European “Border Anxiety”?

*Ioan HORGA*

**Abstract:** *The shock of refugee crisis from the fall of 2015 and terrorism in European Union space has called again into question the topic of European borders. In the present paper we intend to show that the process of the European integration has been marked by the division within the EU especially after the last enlargement eastward (2004/2007) took forms of fragmentation. Initially, the financial and economic crisis has produced new forms of division which have fragmentation aspects designed to create new European borders in the area of EU, but related to the internal process harmonization. Secondly, the Ukrainian crisis, due the implications on external security of European Union, will multiply the fragmentation, but in this case being disputed the national security of the states located on the eastern borders of the EU. Finally, the refugee crisis has led to a real psychosis of security not only at the external borders of the European Union but also at the internal borders reaching national security sensitivities of Member States, hence there is danger that the EU may close between hard borders and postpone the European project for decades.*

**Key words:** *European Borders, EU frontiers, Eastern Europe, Enlargement, Ukrainian crisis refugee crisis*

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# **Threats, Challenges, and Finnish-Russian Cross-Border Security Cooperation: A Finnish Perspective**

*Jussi LAINE*

**Abstract:** *Finland's security is integrally linked with its immediate surroundings, Europe, and global development. Given that Finland considers Russia to be one of the main challenges to its security, cross-border security cooperation with it is limited. Over the years the Finnish border authorities have, nevertheless, developed effective joint working practices with their Russian counterparts which provide a unique communication channel, even in the present geopolitical climate. The present paper address the Finnish-Russian security cooperation, and its lack, within a wider European frame and pits the practical experiences against ongoing theoretical discussion on security and threat perceptions. It argues that despite the more multifaceted understandings of borders and the EUropeanised rhetoric, the Finnish-Russian border is still very much a classic state border guarded by two states from their respective perspectives. In the Finnish-Russian case the content of cooperation has more to do with border management than with more coherent border security, as the former is build on a more common ground than the latter. Increased cooperation and Russian convergence with EU models of border security and management would certainly be of benefit, but Russia's willingness to cooperate seems half-hearted.*

**Keywords:** *border, security, management, Finland, Russia*

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## **The Long Road to Interreg: The Role of European Parliament in the Institutionalization of Cross-border Cooperation in Europe (1958-1990)**

*Silvia SASSANO*

**Abstract.** *Territorial cooperation has become one of the most important and successful activities of the European Economic Community/European Union (EEC/EU), first within Regional and Cohesion policy and then also in the framework of the Enlargement and Neighbourhood policy. The transformation of regional cross-border cooperation from a spontaneous local phenomenon into a structured European program has taken a long time. The process started in 1958, when European institutions, created within the framework of EEC, began to care about European border regions and to take into consideration the importance of cross-border cooperation for these territories and for European Community itself, and first came to fruition in 1990 with the creation of Interreg, the first financial program addressed to territorial cooperation. Many actors have participated in the achievement of this important European activity, both institutional and non-institutional actors at European, national, regional and local level. The focus of this paper is on the EEC/EU institutional level, and in particular on the*

*actions of the European Parliament/EP, which has played a very important role in the development and the institutionalisation of regional cross-border cooperation in Europe. In order to better illustrate how this process has gradually improved as a result of the commitment of all the actors involved and of the evolution of the European integration process, this paper presents a “periodization” of the considered historical period, namely 1958 to 1990. In the most of the cases the a quo and ad quem terms of each of the four phases that the period has been divided into correspond to important turning points in the evolution of the European regional policy, which represents the political-institutional context of reference within which “European cross-border policy” has developed.*

**Keywords:** *Cross-border cooperation, Border regions, Borders, European integration, Interreg, European regional policy, European Parliament, EEC/EU*

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## **Boundaries Delimited. The Notion of Territoriality in International Relations Theory**

***Dionysios TSIRIGOTIS***

**Abstract.** *What does territoriality mean and how is it evaluated in the globalization era? What are the main strands in IR theory debating the issue of territoriality-sovereignty and especially about “states function in a debordering world?” This study deals with the above-mentioned questions, trying to explain and understand the multiple gradations of the notion of territoriality in the field of International Relations Theory. We consistently rely around the methodological scheme of Martin Wight’s, International Theory, linking the current theoretical debate around territoriality and state sovereignty to a pendulum, at both ends of which are the anarchic international system and the world civil society. The former coincides with state sovereignty -international anarchy as the constitutional framework of the modern international system that described and analyzed by the two thoughts waves of International Theory-Realism-Rationalism. The latter is crystallized in cosmopolitanism belief of humanity as the sole ingredient and determining driving force to world society, based on the revolutionary strand of International Theory. A more refined and broader theoretical approach, grounded on the “liberal-rationalist” thought waves, is globalization literature, which seeks to weaken state power and status in the anarchic international system. As a result, the key issue here is the international political discourse focusing on human beings ontological security into state or above state.*

**Keywords:** *Territoriality, IR theory, Globalization, State Sovereignty, Cosmopolitanism*

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# **The European Union and the Electronic Frontier. The Digital Space – A New Space for Integration**

*Mirela MĂRCUȚ*

**Abstract.** *Built on the ontological foundations of spatial changes due to globalization and the Internet, this article aims to define the electronic frontier. This is a new spatial construction, with an inherently abstract character, that can create more connections with the digital space of a socio-economic nature. Basically, by using the categorization of new types of frontiers put forward by Liam O'Dowd, we argue that this electronic frontier can act in four different directions: as a barrier in the digital space, as a link for individuals, as well as a connection between the real and digital spaces, as a resource and lastly, as a source of identity in the digital era. The second aim of the article is to explore possibilities for a new way of integration of the European Union into the digital age by exploring this metamorphosis of frontiers and harnessing its potential for socio-economic gains.*

**Keywords:** *European Union, frontiers, electronic frontier, Digital Agenda for Europe, Digital Single Market, network society, frontiers as processes*

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## **Reflections on *Eurolimes*: Ten Years and Twenty Issues**

*Klára CZIMRE*

### **Introduction**

*The past ten years of the Institute for Euroregional Studies was characterised by high activity in terms of many respects including publications. The following paper collects the main features of the so far published nineteen issues of *Eurolimes* (ISSN: 1841-9259), which has been the main forum of publications for the Institute since its establishment.*

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# European Union: Changes and Challenges

*Cristina-Maria DOGOT*

**Review of:** Latoszek, Ewa, Magdalena Proczek, Agnieszka Kłos, Marta Pachocka, and Ewa Osuch-Rak, eds. *Facing the Challenges in European Union. Re-thinking of EU Education and Research for Smart and Inclusive Growth (EuInteg)*. Warsaw: Polish European Community Studies Association, 2015.

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# Communication, Perception and Image of the European Union

*Luminița ȘOPRONI*

**Review of:** Chaban, Natalia, and Martin Holland, eds. *Communicating Europe in Times of Crisis*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014, 263p. ISBN 978-1-137-33116-8.

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# The Integration of Immigrants – from Theory to Practice, from International to Local Approach

*Alina-Carmen BRIHAN*

**Review of:** “The Implications of EU Policies for the Social, Economic and Political Integration of Immigrants.” *Romanian Journal of International Relations and European Studies (RoJIRES)* 3, no. 1 (2015). ISSN 2285-3529.

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# Important Changes in Central Europe. The Evolution of Visegrad Countries

*Mihai HUSZARIK*

**Review of:** Túry, Gábor. *Prospects of the Visegrad Cooperation, Identifying Converging and Diverging Factors*. Budapest: Institute of World Economics, 2015. ISBN 978-963-301-622-0.

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# **Politics and Economics among East and West**

*Alina-Maria BALAJ*

**Review of:** Costea, Ana Maria. *East versus West – When Politics Collide with Economics*, Bucharest: Tritonic, 2015. ISBN 978-606-749-056-5.