



Border Realities

Border Realities: Humanitarian Challenges at Borders

Interdisciplinary Online Lecture Series 2025/2026

National borders, which are often perceived as sites of control and reinforced security, are being reshaped by contemporary challenges and transformations. As well as their role in regulation, borders are also becoming places of humanitarian action, an issue that has recently been brought to the fore by current events.

The UniGR-CBS lecture series will examine the interaction between humanitarian practices and border regimes. It will address questions relating to the actors, contexts, practices and temporalities of humanitarian action at borders, as well as the role of languages and networks in shaping experiences of humanitarian work.

Lectures

28/10/2025 | 4.00pm – Damien Simonneau (INALCO - Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales)

Humanitarianism and militarization

02/12/2025 | 4.00pm – Antoine Pécoud (Sorbonne Paris North University)

Humanitarian actors at the borders

09/12/2025 | 4.00pm – Shoshana Fine (ESPOL - European School of Political and Social Sciences)

How the EU and liberal democracies justify violence against migrants through appeals to law

20/01/2026 | 4.00pm – Alice Elkouby-Croisé (EHESS – Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales)

Sea rescue by “ordinary people” in the Mediterranean

Two further lectures will be announced shortly.

The online lecture series is open to the public and is aimed at researchers, students, and the interested public.

More information & registration

www.borderrealities.org

Contact

Denise Rodrigues Marafona

denise.rodriguesmarafona@uni.lu

Academic chairs

Frédérique Morel-Doridat

Université de Lorraine

UniGR-Center for Border Studies

Damien Simonneau

Inalco – Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales

CESSMA – Centre d'études en sciences sociales sur les mondes africains, américains et asiatiques

