



CFP

Border Narratives: Brexit, Europe, and the UK

University of Goettingen, Germany, 6-8 May 2020

Organisers: Lars Klein and Kirsten Sandrock

Borders have played a decisive role in the Brexit referendum. The decision to leave or remain in the EU was often framed in the national media as a border referendum and political scientists agree that the vote gives evidence to widespread public opposition to open border policies in the UK. The conference *Border Narratives: Brexit, Europe, and the UK* seeks to shed light on these issues from a literary and cultural studies perspective. We are particularly interested in investigating narratives of borders in relation to Brexit and the ways in which recent border debates interact with greater historical, cultural, and epistemological border stories.

Guiding conference questions are: How are the UK's borders negotiated in literary and cultural works? Is there a particular border aesthetics in recent works of art? How do material, political, geophysical and economic contexts feature in border narratives? And, vice versa, how do border narratives become relevant for the larger political, economic, and ideological context? Where can the field of border studies help theorizing border narratives in Europe and the UK, and where are other tools necessary for this context?

Contributions may include, but are not restricted to:

- Brexit and borders
- The Irish border
- Euroscepticism and border arts
- Theoretical approaches to UK borders
- Border aesthetics
- Migration and bordering processes
- Rebordering and new nationalism
- The British Empire and its border legacies

Please send proposals (abstracts of approx. 300 words) together with a short biographical note by **31 July 2019** to the conference convenors:

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