

Conference venue | [Sede dell'incontro](#)

Deutsches Historisches Institut in Rom  
Istituto Storico Germanico di Roma  
Via Aurelia Antica, 391  
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The turn of the century between the 1700s and the 1800s saw a more marked territorialisation of sovereignty within Europe and a contemporary hardening of the state boundaries. However, was the modern state the only protagonist of this process? And is it really possible to read the 19th century European spatiality simply along the coordinates of the new boundary lines? The conference aims to answer these questions by analysing on the one hand the real border-creation processes of that time, on the other hand, the borderlands, as cross-border regions, that interacted in different ways with the new borders. Through an international discussion between historians, anthropologists and geographers, the conference aims to promote a dialogue between historiography and border studies on the basis of a rethinking of the spatial category.

**Al tornante tra '700 e '800 si assistette nel continente europeo a una più decisa territorializzazione della sovranità e a un contemporaneo irrigidimento dei confini statali. Ma lo stato moderno fu davvero l'unico protagonista di questo processo? E la spazialità dell'Europa dell'Ottocento può essere semplicemente interpretata lungo le coordinate tracciate dalle nuove linee confinarie? Il convegno si propone di dare risposta a queste domande analizzando per un verso i veri e propri processi di confinazione dell'epoca, per un altro, i borderlands europei, intesi come regioni trans-statali, che in modi diversi interagirono con i nuovi confini. Attraverso un confronto internazionale tra storici, antropologi e geografi, il convegno mira a promuovere un dialogo tra storiografia e border studies, sulla base di un ripensamento della categoria dello spazio.**

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Germanico di Roma



## Borders and Borderlands in 19th Century Europe Confini e regioni di confine nell'Europa dell'Ottocento



International Conference,  
Rome, 11–12 June 2015  
Convegno internazionale,  
Roma, 11–12 giugno 2015

Thursday, 11 June, 9.00–19.30

- 09.00 Martin Baumeister | DHI Rome  
Welcome
- 09.15 Laura Di Fiore | Naples  
Introduction
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### I - Methods at the Border. A Dialogue between History, Geography and Anthropology

- 09.30 Anssi Paasi | Oulu  
The Shifting Landscape of Border Studies
- 10.00 Bjørn Thomassen | Roskilde  
European Borders in Perspective: Liminality Versus Marginality
- 10.30 Marco Meriggi | Naples  
From Below, From Above. Perception of Borders and Construction of Boundaries in Ancien Régime Italian States
- 11.00 Discussion
- 11.30 Break
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### II - Border-creation Processes between State Institutions and Social Actors

- 12.00 Jacobo García Álvarez | Madrid  
Representing the Line. Maps, Geometric Descriptions and Nation-state Building in the Spanish-Portuguese Boundary Demarcation (1855–1906)
- 12.30 Joan Capdevila Subirana | Barcelona  
The Delimitation of the Spanish-French Border (1853–1868)
- 13.00 Break
- 14.30 Donatella Balani | Turin  
The Border between Savoy States and France: Central Government, Local Institutions and Border Populations
- 15.00 Antonio Chiavistelli | Turin  
The Demarcation of Boundaries in Pre-unification Italy: the Granduchy of Tuscany
- 15.30 Discussion

### III - Social Practices of Space and Trans-state Regions: a "Europe of Borderlands"

- 16.00 Pier Paolo Viazzo | Turin  
A "Migratory Macro-region": Labour Mobility Across Political and Linguistic Boundaries in the West-Central Alps
- 16.30 Alessandro Pastore | Verona  
Perception and Material Reality of Borders in the Experience of XIX Century Mountaineers and Soldiers
- 18.00 *Keynote Lecture*  
Kapil Raj | Paris  
Beyond Europe: Frontiers in Postcolonial Histories

Friday, 12 June, 9.30–12.30

### III - Social Practices of Space and Trans-state Regions: a "Europe of Borderlands"

- 09.30 Sébastien Dubois | Bruxelles  
Geographic Revolution and Practices of Border between France and Belgium
- 10.00 James Bjork | London  
"Borderland Piety". "Heartlands" of Catholic Devotional Practice in Western and Central Europe
- 10.30 Break
- 11.00 Peter Thaler | Odense  
The Heartstrings of Europe: Regions of Passage in Prussia and the Habsburg Monarchy
- 11.30 Discussion
- 12.00 Laura Di Fiore | Naples, Martin Baumeister | Rome  
Final Comment