



## DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES- UACJ

### 1<sup>st</sup> International IRGOB Conference International Research Group on Organizing the Borderlands

Organized by JEPGOR (Juárez-El Paso Group of Organizational Research), British Academy for the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of West of England (UWE), UK, and Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez (UACJ), México.

### **Organizing Family, Childhood and Youth in the borderlands**

Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez  
October 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Borderlands were usually conceived as spaces of mobility, exchange, transformation and even “freedom” (Marcus and Fischer, 1986) or punishment (Lugo, 2000). Ethnographic methodologies to study the borders have been, consequently, developed around studying movement, migration, fluxes of capital or people. This is the case of most of national and regional borderlands societies. However, globalization has created the phenomenon of “permanent” borderlands on movement, places with strong rigidity, fixation and profound crystallization of social and cultural practices of organizing, even if they are in a constant nomadic fluxation. Offering a possible line of flight from organizational and explanatory mobility from A to B, Braidotti (1994) suggests acknowledging nomadism as an existential condition and Berdahl (1999) calls for an understanding of boundaries not as enmeshed in existing social and power relations. How to study societies and organizations of these places? How to observe, produce and analyze data from societies defined as mobile but are mobile and rigid at the same time? Instead of the assumption of liminality and hybridity of organizing in the borderlands (Kearney 1991, 1995, 1998), this conference calls for contributions who study the organizing of the borderlands, in particular, but not exclusively, childhood, families and youngsters, as a way of producing stable places but in permanent movement (Gupta and Ferguson, 1997).

Papers are invited which connect with questions of organizing and the borderlands, in particular on movement, mobility, transition, transformation, travelling, nomadism and focused, but not exclusively, on issues related to organizing childhood, families and youngsters. Some possible lines of flight would include:

- How the youngsters, the families and the children organize in the borderlands;
- What youngsters think in the borderlands;
- What families do in the borderlands; to study, to work, etc
- Visions and practices of migrants/nomads;

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- How children are institutionalized in the borderlands;
- Where is home in the borderlands;
- Exiles from places and friends;
- Translating, transporting, transferring in the border;
- “Glocalization” practices of migrants/nomads in the borderlands.

This list is intended to be indicative only. Innovative interpretations of the conference theme are encouraged. With its long tradition of inter-disciplinary membership, the research group in charge of the conference (JEPGOR) invites papers that draw insights and approaches from across a range of social sciences and humanities. In addition to scholars working in organization studies we welcome contributions from anthropology, sociology, philosophy, politics, art history, communication, film, gender and cultural studies. Contributions can be theoretical, empirical or methodological, but should address their subject matter in a critical and rigorous fashion.

Working papers with not more than 6 pages (2500 words) should be submitted for review to the conference manager, Mtra. Janeth Martínez ([congresociudadjuarez2017@yahoo.com](mailto:congresociudadjuarez2017@yahoo.com) . [Please follow these model to produce your manuscript](#). Please complete the registration as soon as you receive confirmation of acceptance. Working papers accepted and presented at the conference will be published in a special issue of *Organizing/Organized*.

Program Advisory Committee

Hugo Gaggiotti, University of the West of England  
Sandra Bustillos, Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez  
José Luis Ramos, Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia  
Janeth Martínez Martínez, Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez  
Rodolfo Rincones Delgado, University of Texas El Paso  
Francisco Lara, Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia

**Key dates**

Submission proposals deadline: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Confirmation of acceptance: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Registration deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017

**References**

- Berdahl, D. 1999. *Where the World Ended: Re Unification and Identity in the German Borderland*. Berkeley:Univ. Calif. Press.
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- Gupta A, Ferguson J, eds. 1997. *Anthropological Locations*. Berkeley: Univ. Calif. Press.
- Kearney, M. 1991. 'Borders and boundaries of state and self at the end of empire', *Journal of Historical Sociology* 4(1):52-74.
- Kearney, M. 1995 'The local and the global: the anthropology of globalization and transnationalism', *Annual review of Anthropology* 24:547-65
- Kearney, M. 1998 'Transnationalism in California and Mexico at the end of empire', in Thomas Wilson and Hastings Donnan (eds.) *Borders identities: nation and State at International Frontiers*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Marcus GE., Fischer MJ. 1986. *Anthropology as Cultural Critique: an Experimental Moment in the Human Sciences*. Chicago: Univ. Chicago Press.