

Séminaire/Workshop

FRONTIERES ET TECHNOLOGIES BORDERS AND TECHNOLOGIES

19 - 20 avril 2012

IMéRA

Maison des Astronomes
2 place Le Verrier
13004 Marseille

Organisateurs:

Cédric Parizot (CNRS-IREMAM/IMéRA)
Amaël Cattaruzza (CREC, Saint Cyr Coëtquidan)
Nicola Mai (London Metropolitan University/IMéRA)
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LES FRONTIERES DU 21^E SIECLE :
PROGRAMME EXPLORATOIRE TRANSDISCIPLINAIRE DE L'IMéRA
SUR LES MUTATIONS TERRITORIALES CONTEMPORAINES

Séminaire n°3/3d WORKSHOP

BORDERS AND TECHNOLOGIES
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(Les interventions se feront en français et en anglais avec traduction simultanée)
(Presentation will be made in English or French with simultaneous translation)



Frontières et technologies

L'utilisation de technologies de plus en plus perfectionnées pour contrôler les flux de personnes et de marchandises traversant les frontières est un phénomène largement répandu. Il suffit ainsi de mentionner le lancement du projet *Frontières intelligentes* ou *Barrière virtuelle* aux Etats Unis, la centralisation des systèmes de renseignement dans l'espace Schengen, les patrouilles de robots et les barrières de « high-tech » en Israël et dans les Territoires palestiniens occupés, les robots sentinelles tueurs en Corée du Sud et, enfin, l'adoption internationale des standards du passeport électronique pour avoir quelques exemples du phénomène. Sa mise en place repose sur l'idée largement partagée que ces techniques fournissent des outils plus efficaces pour identifier et stopper les personnes indésirables et suspectes au sein des flux globaux. Le déploiement de ces technologies soulève des questions fondamentales dans la mesure où il contribue aux transformations de la nature et des formes des frontières, des espaces, et des territorialités.

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Borders and technologies

The use of technology to control flows of people and goods across borders is quickly becoming an ubiquitous practice. The “*smart borders*” initiative and “*virtual fence*” project in the United States, the Schengen border's centralized intelligence system, robot patrols and high-tech fences between Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, sentinel killer robots in South Korea and, of course, the worldwide adoption of the electronic passport standard are just a few iconic examples of broader dynamics and trends. The development of these bordering technologies is linked to the widely spread assumption that they provide efficient tools to identify and stop undesirable and ‘suspect’ individuals and groups within global flows. The deployment of technological bordering devices raises a series of crucial questions for it participates into the broad transformations of the nature, the shapes of borders, spaces and territoriality.

Thursday, April 19 / Jeudi 19 avril 2012

14h00 INTRODUCTION

Cédric Parizot (Anthropologue, chargé de recherche au CNRS, IREMAM, membre du comité de pilotage de l'IMéRA)

14h30-16h PANEL I : "SMART BORDERS": STATE OF THE ART / "FRONTIERES INTELLIGENTES": ETAT DE L'ART

Chair/Président: Gabriel Popescu (Geographer, Assistant Professor, Indiana University South Bend, US)

Amaël Cattaruzza (Géographe, Maître de conférences, Ecole Saint Cyr Coëtquidan)

Contrôle des frontières : la tentation technologique/Border control : the temptation of technology

Mariya Polner (Political Scientist, Research analyst, WCO Research and Strategies Unit)

Border control technologies: general trends and patterns of development/Technologies de contrôle aux frontières: tendances et formes de développement

Philippe Bonditti (Politologue, Professeur assistant, IRI/PUC-Rio, Rio de Janeiro, Brésil et chercheur associé au CERI-Sciences Po Paris, France)

Flux et frontières. « Technologisation » des contrôles et traçabilité/ Flows and borders: "Technologization" of control and traceability

16h30-18h DISCUSSION



Friday, April 20/Vendredi 20 avril 2012

8h45 Accueil des participants/Welcome to the participants

9h-11h PANEL II: ROBOTS AND BORDER CONTROL / ROBOTS ET CONTRÔLE FRONTALIER

Chair/Présidente: Anne-Laure Amilhat Szary (Géographe, Maître de conférences, UMR PACTE, Université Joseph Fourier, Grenoble)

Sylviane Pascal (Security & Europe Defence Business Development Manager ONERA - The French Aerospace Lab)

Le programme Talos : enjeux et perspective de l'usage de robots terrestres aux frontières/ TALOS project: stakes and perspectives of ground robots use at borders

Noel Sharkey (Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, Professor, University of Sheffield)

Bordering on the ridiculous: controlling our movements from the sky/A la limite du ridicule: contrôler nos mouvements à partir du ciel

Pause café/Coffee Break

11h30-13h30 PANEL III: WHEN THINGS BITE BACK/QUAND LES CHOSES MORDENT

Chair/Président: Olivier Clochard (Géographe, ADES/Terre Ferme)

Daniel Kopecky (Lieutenant Colonel, CREC, Saint Cyr Coëtquidan)

Technologies aux frontières : les limites du système. Retour d'expérience de mission d'expertise en Asie du sud-est/ Technology at the borders: the limits of the system. Lessons learned from an expertise mission in South-East Asia

Thomas Cantens (Administrateur à l'Unité Recherche et Stratégies de l'OMD et membre du Centre Norbert Elias EHESS-Marseille)

Apprivoiser ou s'approprier : l'effet des transformations des techniques de contrôle douaniers sur le fonctionnement des administrations et la nature des frontières/ Taming or Taking Ownership : Effects of technological transformations of custom control on the administrations and the nature of borders

DEJEUNER / LUNCH



**15h-16h45 PANEL III: "WIRELESS" CONTROL: IMPLEMENTATION, EFFECTS, RE-
APPROPRIATION / CONTROLE « SANS FIL » : MISE EN OEUVRE? EFFETS ET
REAPPROPRIATION**

Chair/Président: Nicola Mai (Anthropologist, London Metropolitan University)

Gabriel Popescu (Geographer, Assistant Professor, Indiana University South Bend, US)
Remote Control Technologies and the Production of Topological Border Spaces/Technologies de contrôle à distance et production d'espaces frontaliers topologiques

Dana Diminescu (Sociologue, EC Telecom Paristech, dir scientifique du programme TIC Migrations FMSH Paris)

Migrants connectés: "K29?" dans la sociologie des migrations/ Connected migrants: 'WU?' in the sociology of migrations

Christophe Bruno (Artiste, Commissaire d'exposition) & **Samuel Tronçon** (Philosophe, Résurgences, Marseille)

*ArtWar(e) – vers une application Facebook pour détecter les formes artistiques/
ArtWar(e) – towards a Facebook application to detect artistic forms*

Pause café/Coffee Break

17h15-18h45 DISCUSSION

RESUMES/ABSTRACTS

1- Amaël Cattaruzza (Maître de conférences, Ecole de Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan)

Contrôle des frontières : la tentation technologique

En octobre 2006 était votée au Congrès américain la *Secure Fence Act* qui prévoyait la construction d'une barrière d'environ 1 100 km pour séparer les Etats-Unis du Mexique. Son but était de lutter contre l'immigration clandestine, le trafic de drogue et le terrorisme, en mettant en place une « surveillance systématique des frontières internationales terrestres et maritimes des Etats-Unis par l'usage plus efficace des personnels et de technologies, telles que les drones, senseurs sismiques, satellites, radars et caméras » (*Secure Fence Act*, Section 2). L'usage de technologies de surveillance apparaît donc ici comme l'un des éléments clefs du dispositif sécuritaire, car il permettrait une surveillance systématique et totale de la zone concernée, et semblerait donc apporter une réponse adaptée à l'incertitude et à l'imprévisibilité des flux illégaux. Quelques années auparavant la mise en place de *smart borders* avait permis l'adoption de technologies d'identifications des marchandises (usage de puces électroniques) et des personnes (contrôle biométriques, usage de cartes à puce contenant des données personnelles, etc.). L'exemple américain est loin d'être exceptionnel et l'usage des nouvelles technologies dans le domaine de la surveillance et du contrôle des flux aux frontières se généralise de nos jours. De tels procédés se retrouvent entre autres aux frontières de l'Espace Schengen. Cette intervention propose donc de dresser un état des lieux de l'usage des technologies pour le contrôle des frontières et de s'interroger sur la manière dont cet usage modifie la nature du phénomène frontalier. À travers l'outil technologique, ne voyons nous pas apparaître cet « *ubiquitous border* », frontière omniprésente, que décrit Stephen Graham, pour lequel le territoire urbain devient en lui-même un des multiples lieu de contrôle de la frontière ?

Border control: The Temptation of technology

In October 2006 the American Congress voted the *Secure Fence Act* and planned the construction of a 1 100 km fence at the Mexican/United States border. This project aimed to prevent illegal immigration, drug smuggling and terrorism. It included the deployment of a « systematic surveillance of the international land and maritime borders of the United States through more effective use of personnel and technology, such as

unmanned aerial vehicles, ground-based sensors, satellites, radar coverage, and cameras » (*Secure Fence Act*, Section 2). The use of surveillance technology seems to be one of the key elements of security making, because it apparently allows a systematic and global surveillance of the border area. Such technologies would face the uncertainty and the unpredictability of illegal influx. Few years before, the American concept of *smart borders* had introduced technologies in order to identify merchandises (chips and microchips) and individuals (biometric controls, electronic cards, etc.). Nowadays, the American example is not exceptional and the use of technologies in the field of border control is more and more current in the world (as for the Schengen borders in Europe). This lecture will attempt to stress the state of the art of the use of technology for border control and to consider the meaning and the consequences of this use on the configuration of borders? Does technology lead to the « ubiquitous border », as described by the geographer Stephen Graham?

2- Mariya Polner (Political scientist, Research analyst, World Custom Organization, Research and Strategies Unit)

Border control technologies – general trends and patterns of development

In a globalised world where interconnectedness and integration are key dynamics influencing economic growth and social development, policymakers are increasingly realizing the need for accelerated border management regulatory reform to reduce unnecessary barriers and burdens on trade. However, the fruits of globalization are used not only by legal businesses, but also by illegal traders. Therefore, border agencies face a serious challenge of balancing security and trade facilitation. The World Customs Organization (WCO) has developed a set of instruments in order to assist Customs Administrations in promoting the balance between the two, and technology plays a pivotal role striving for this objective. Deployment of technology, however, has never been and will never be a “silver bullet” to solve all public policy objectives. This presentation will start with discussing the changing environment in which border agencies operate, with a focus on the notion of ‘border’ and its changing meaning over time. After the overview of WCO instruments we will look into different kinds of technologies that are currently in use, as well as those that are now being developed. We will also discuss issues pertaining to the operationalisation of technologies, as they become vital for any agency that considers using them. Finally, we will discuss critical aspects of technology development which would allow it to remain an indispensable tool in the hands of Customs.

3- Philippe Bonditti (Politologue, Professeur assistant, IRI/PUC Rio -Rio de Janeiro, Brésil- et chercheur associé au CERI-Sciences Po Paris, France)

Flux et frontières. « Technologisation » des contrôles et traçabilité

Voilà près de 20 ans que la lutte contre le « terrorisme » et autres phénomènes transnationaux a replacé la sécurité des frontières au cœur des problématiques dites de sécurité et de défense. Un peu partout dans le monde, les programmes de développement de *smart borders* se multiplient. Pourtant, loin de renforcer les frontières, leur technologisation contribue à brouiller l'*image* du monde géopolitique, nous rappelant que le renforcement du contrôle aux frontières ne vise pas tant les frontières en elles-mêmes que les flux susceptibles de les traverser. Ces contrôles – que l'on dit communément « aux frontières » – sont en fait réalisés en des *points* bien spécifiques (*checkpoints*) qui ne correspondent que très rarement à ceux qui forment ces lignes aux moyens desquelles nous représentons la frontière sur les cartes du monde géopolitique. Ils sont en outre réalisés bien en amont de « l'entrée en mobilité » au moyen d'un régime déterritorialisé de contrôle des flux que nous nous proposons d'explorer plus avant dans cette présentation en nous appuyant plus spécifiquement sur le cas des Etats-Unis, et plus marginalement de l'Europe. Il s'agira de mettre en évidence la logique de mise en réseau des appareils de sécurité, la manière dont elle influe sur les pratiques contemporaines de frontiérisation, et l'avènement de la traçabilité comme technique majeure de la gouvernamentalité contemporaine.

Flows and borders: “Technologization” of control and traceability

For nearly 20 years, the fight against "terrorism" and other transnational phenomena have raised "border security" as a crucial issue among the so-called defense and security issues. Everywhere around the world, the "Smart Borders" programs develop. Yet, far from "enforcing" the borders, the "technologization" of borders is one of the major factor of the confusing of the image of the geopolitical world. It reminds us that border control does not target borders as much as the flows that might cross them. These controls – commonly said to happen at the "border" – are actually made in very specific *points* (*checkpoints*) that do very rarely match those which compose the lines by mean of which we came to represent the border on the maps of the geopolitical world. Moreover, they are made before one becomes mobile by mean of a "deterritorialized regime" of control of flows which we propose to further explore in this presentation based on the case of the United States, and also partly on the case of Europe. The aim is to emphasize the networking logic that animates security apparatuses, the ways in which this logic impact on contemporary practices of borderization and the emergence of traceability as the major technique of contemporary governmentality.

4- Sylviane Pascal (Defence Business Development Directorate ONERA - The French Aerospace Lab)

Le projet TALOS: enjeux et perspective de l'usage de robots terrestres aux frontières

Le projet TALOS (Transportable and Autonomous Land bOrder Surveillance system - www.talos-border.eu) est un projet financé par la Commission européenne (7^{ème} Programme Cadre, thème Sécurité 2008 – 2012) dont l'objectif est de valider le concept d'un système de surveillance des frontières terrestres européennes qui fait largement appel à des équipements robotisés (robots terrestres, drones et tours d'observation) contrôlés depuis un centre de commandement transportable. TALOS doit permettre de traiter le problème de la surveillance de vastes zones frontalières, reconnu par la Commission Européenne comme étant un point crucial de la mission de sécurité des frontières. Le but de TALOS est d'aider à la détection, la poursuite et l'appréhension des personnes essayant de traverser la frontière hors des points de passage autorisés. Pour répondre aux besoins variés liés à la grande diversité des zones frontalières de l'Union européenne, le système de surveillance doit être adaptable à la configuration de terrain, transportable et d'un coût acceptable.

TALOS project: stakes and perspectives of ground robots use at borders

TALOS (Transportable and Autonomous Land bOrder Surveillance system - www.talos-border.eu) is a European research project co-funded by the EU 7th Framework Programme under the Security thematic area. The main objective of TALOS is to develop and test innovative mobile and autonomous systems aimed at protecting EU land borders. Unmanned Ground Vehicles (UGVs) are major components of the TALOS project. TALOS addresses the surveillance of large land border areas, which was recognized by the European Commission as a strategic ability for its border security mission. Its aim is to help the detecting, tracking and apprehending of people attempting to cross the border outside of surveilled and authorized routes. To meet the challenges posed by the diversified nature of the European Union's external border, the system needs to be adaptable, transportable and cost-efficient.

5- Noel Sharkey (Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, University of Sheffield)

Bordering on the ridiculous: controlling our movements from the sky

Plans to automate killing by robot have been a prominent feature of most US forces' roadmaps since 2004. The idea is to have a staged move from man-in-the-loop to man-on-the-loop to full autonomy. While this may create considerable military advantages it raises ethical concerns with regard to potential breaches of International Humanitarian Law. Moreover, we are already seeing these new technologies being deployed at borders in countries such as US, Latin America, South Korea and Israel. Drone technology alone has proliferated to more than 51 countries and police forces are beginning to use it routinely. The talk will discuss the development of the technology into the near future as it becomes more autonomous and explore the ethical dimensions.

6- Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Kopecky (Chef du département relations internationales aux Ecoles de Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan)

Technologies aux frontières : les limites du système. Retour d'expérience de mission d'expertise en Asie du sud-est.

Fondé sur un retour d'expérience de mission d'expertise auprès de l'Armée Royale Thaïe et de dossiers techniques d'étude réalisés au profit d'industriels français, l'intervenant concentrera son exposé sur deux zones spécifiques en Asie du sud-est : la frontière nord de la Thaïlande (Birmanie) et la frontière sud de la Malaisie (île de Bornéo). Après un descriptif des enjeux spécifiques de la zone, l'exposé présentera ensuite les divers systèmes et moyens techniques envisagés pour assurer la sécurité frontalière des pays concernés par le développement des capacités technologiques en soulignant les contraintes et les enjeux notamment humains.

Technology at the borders: the limits of the system. Lessons learned from an expertise mission in South-East Asia

Based on lessons learned from an expertise mission with the Royal Thai Army and technical studies carried out for French security industries, the speaker will focus on two specific areas of South-East Asia: the Thailand-Burma border and Malaysia's southern border (Borneo Island).

7- Thomas Cantens (Anthropologue, Unité Recherche et Stratégies de l'Organisation Mondiale des Douanes et membre du Centre Norbert Elias EHESS-Marseille)

Apprivoiser ou s'approprier : l'effet des transformations des techniques de contrôle douaniers sur le fonctionnement des administrations et la nature des frontières

A partir de quelques exemples de technologies introduites dans les douanes en Afrique sub-saharienne et d'une enquête ethnographique menée dans une douane africaine en réforme pendant plus de 4 années, la communication développera trois idées principales. Tout d'abord, terrains de réforme influencées par l'extérieur, les administrations douanières africaines utilisent des technologies aussi avancées, parfois plus innovants que les douanes d'autres continents. Ensuite, ces technologies sont « apprivoisées » : bousculant les ordres elles génèrent de nouveaux rapports d'autorité et de pouvoir dans les administrations et les professions dites partenaires. Enfin, ces technologies sont des vecteurs politiques qui transforment les rapports entre Etats sans toujours avoir les effets attendus.

Taming or Taking the Ownership : Effects of Technological Transformations at Borders on Administrations and Nature of Borders

From a few examples of technologies introduced in the Customs administrations in sub-Saharan Africa and an ethnography conducted in an African Customs reforming for more than four years, the communication will develop three main ideas. First, because they are new "lands of reform" and strongly influenced by the outside, customs administrations in Africa use technologies equally and sometimes more extensively than Customs administrations of "developed" countries. Second, these technologies are "tamed": they upset the established order and are at stake to establish new orders and relations of authority and power within the administration and beyond, for example, professions-partners (brokers, freight-forwarders, banks). Third, the technologies are vectors to transform political relations between states, under pressure from donors who support the policies of regionalization, economic integration, and liberalization, without always having the desired effects.

8- Gabriel Popescu (Geographer, Assistant Professor, Indiana University South Bend, US)

Remote Control Technologies and the Production of Topological Border Spaces

Mobility imperatives under globalization are profoundly altering borders' relationship to space. Risk management strategies associated with the quest to securitize transnational mobility have triggered a technological race to embed borders into all kinds of flows in order for the border to be able to travel with the flow and be ready to be performed whenever circumstances require. With the help of technologies such as Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) borders are disembedded from their local contexts, projected at distance, and then re-embedded anywhere in the state territory. Such articulation of borders changes the way movement through space is organized and how people and places come into contact. This "portal-like" logic of border geography brings people and places together by connecting them directly across space, unlike modern border territoriality that connects them via contiguous state territories. This situation opens up the entire space of the globe to bordering processes, thus accelerating the proliferation of borders and multiplying the actors involved in their establishment. The implications for society of such novel border spatiality are paramount. It is vital to understand how democratic participation to be spatially reorganized to assure border governance remains in the public domain.

9- Dana Diminescu (Sociologue, TIC-Migrations, FMSH, Paris)

Connected migrants: 'WU?' in the sociology of migrations / Migrants connectés: "K29?" dans la sociologie des migrations

According to the Algerian sociologist Abdelmalek Sayad, the process of migration is marked by a double absence, as migrants are uprooted from their 'home' societies and they fail to 'integrate' in their countries of emigration. In this perspective, the migrant experience is characterized by a permanent break with the places that link the individual with his or her native environment as well as by the confrontation with a world that thinks and lives differently. Current understandings of the experience of migration, whether they refer to issues of cultural identity of integration, refer to and focus on a series of breaks and oppositions. These are constructed as inherent to migrants' fate and are constantly used in theoretical reflections on populations on the move. For instance, migrants are described according to binary oppositions such as: mobile/immobile, neither there nor here, absent/present, central/peripheral, and so forth. This understanding of people's movements is an historical and sociological simplification and does account for

the way the world was transformed by the onset of generalized mobility and by the spread unprecedentedly complex means of communication. Today, the definition of the migrant based on different forms of rupture considered to be fundamental and radical is in trouble. Alternative organizing principles emerge, as mobility and connectivity mark the experiences of contemporary migrants. In this talk, my aim is to analyse the different and interlinked forms of rootedness, displacement and connectedness that are experienced by contemporary migrants. Contemporary sociological studies of migration must focus on issues of connectedness and of presence. These days it is increasingly rare to see migration as a movement between two distinct communities, belonging to separated places that are characterized by independent systems of social relations. On the contrary, it is more and more common for migrants to maintain distant relations that are similar to relations of proximity and to be able to activate them remotely on a daily basis. This mediated bond --- via telephone, email, or Skype--- makes it easier than before to stay close to one's family, to others, to what is happening at home or elsewhere. The development of communication practices ---from simple 'conversational' methods where communication compensates for absence, to 'connected' modes where the services maintain a form of continuous presence in spite of the distance --- has produced the most important change in migrants' lives. Migratory practices (in particular the activation of networks, remote organization, and the monitoring of movements), the way mobility is experienced and implicitly the construction of new "home territories" have been thoroughly transformed.

10- Christophe Bruno (Artiste, commissaire d'expositions, Paris) et **Samuel Tronçon** (Philosophe, Résurgences, Marseille)

ArtWar(e) – vers une application Facebook pour détecter les formes artistiques

ArtWar(e) est une plate-forme de «gestion des risques artistiques » et de « curating assisté par ordinateur ». Un de ses principaux objectifs est de visualiser dans les réseaux sociaux, des vagues d'émergence, d'obsolescence, et des phénomènes d'import-export de concepts artistiques, comme de repérer des formats. Contrairement à l'histoire de l'art qui nomme les formes une fois qu'elles sont devenues identifiables et formatées, ArtWar(e) cherche à détecter ces tendances au moment de leur émergence, alors qu'elles n'ont encore aucun nom et qu'elles n'ont pas reçu le label d'art. Il s'agit ici à la fois de construire, mais également de mettre en question un dispositif quelque peu kafkaïen. En effet, ArtWar(e) utilise les outils de surveillance les plus puissants jamais développés, comme Facebook, afin de détecter d'infimes soubresauts de la vie sociale des formes.



Région



Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

Nous présenterons la méthodologie ainsi que les principes de l'application Facebook en cours de développement.

ArtWar(e) – towards a Facebook application to detect artistic forms

ArtWar(e) is a platform for « artistic risk management » and « computer assisted curating ». One of its main goals is to visualize waves of emergence, obsolescence, import-export of artistic concepts, as well as to detect formats. Contrary to art history, where forms are labeled once they have been formatted, ArtWar(e) seeks to track these trends as soon as they emerge, before they have been named and filed as art. It is quite a kafkaesque project, for it uses the most powerful surveillance tools ever built, such as Facebook, in order to observe the slightest moves of the social life of forms. We shall present the methodology and the principles of the Facebook application we are working on.