

## Call for Paper

### Panel – "Learning Border Regions" – Border Regions as Regional Learning Processes

2nd World Conference of the Association for Borderlands Studies (10-14 July 2018  
Vienna/Budapest) <http://www.abs2018world.com>

Chairs: H. Peter Dörrenbächer (Saarland University) and N.N.

The notion of "*learning regions*" refers to a concept which has come to be used in scientific discourse since the 1990s. It refers to a process which mainly contributes to "capacity building" on a regional scale – especially in a dynamics of knowledge transfer from the sciences to the industry. Other studies do only focus on the economy and the industry in relation to regional economy but refer to structures of governance. This perspective of research invites us to ask the question if and under which circumstances the process of the regional learning can be supported and how it can be used and put to practice. These questions also encompass different cultural aspects. They focus more on the perspective of the actor and they take into account the relation between the institutional, political, social and economic frameworks, on the one hand, and the initiatives of development on a regional scale, on the other. These approaches can be an important source of knowledge for cross-border territories because they allow us to focus on the peculiarities of these cross-border spaces.

Concerning various disciplines, the panel "Learning Border Regions" could discuss original, innovative experiences which can carry important lessons for Western and Southern Europe. It could ask how these practices of vocational training, spatial planning, language learning and regional development in cross-border context could be transferable to other frontier regions. How, to sum up, can a border region learn from another border region and how can it be considered a process of learning?

Please send proposals to [p.doerrenbaecher@mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:p.doerrenbaecher@mx.uni-saarland.de)

Deadline for proposals: 15.08.2017

Proposal structure:

- Title of the talk
- Speaker(s)
- Abstract max. 500 words (incl. bibliography)
- 4-5 keywords
- Contact information (name, university affiliation, institute, mailing address, email)
- Biographical information (max. 300 words)
- Papers should be in English.