

# Olivier J. Walther

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Geography, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 2006

Master of Advanced Studies in Development Studies, University of Geneva, 2004

Master of Arts in Geography, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 2001

Bachelor of Arts, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 1999

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, University of Florida, 2019 –

Visiting Associate Professor, Center for African Studies, University of Florida, USA, 2017-19

Associate Professor, Center for Border Region Studies and Center for War Studies,  
Department of Political Science, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark, 2014-17

Visiting Assistant Professor, Geography Department, Center for African Studies and Division  
of Global Affairs, Rutgers University, USA, 2013

Senior Researcher, Department of Geography, Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic  
Research, Luxembourg, 2007-2012

Visiting Scholar, University of Basel, Switzerland, fall 2010

Research and Teaching Assistant, Institute of Geography, University of Lausanne,  
Switzerland, 2003-2006

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

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- Security and Conflict: Cross-border conflicts and terrorism in West Africa
- International Trade: Regional integration in West Africa
- Economic Geography: Cross-border city regions in Europe
- Quantitative Methods: Social Network Analysis

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

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*Monitoring the Spatial Evolution of Conflicts in North and West Africa (2021-22)*, Principal Investigator (PI). Funded by the OECD (\$ 202,000)

*Inclusiveness and Diversity as Building Blocks of Resilient International Research Teams in the Age of COVID-19 (2021-22)*, Co-PI. Funded by the National Science Foundation (\$ 298,000)

*Linking deforestation, urbanization, and agricultural expansion for land-use decisions in Ghana (2020-22)*, Co-Investigator (Co-I). Funded by NASA SERVIR-USAID (\$ 660,000)

*Foreign Interventions and Transnational Insurgencies in the Sahara-Sahel (2019-20)*, PI. Funded by the OECD (\$ 311,000)

*Cities and Borders (2017-18)*, Co-PI. Funded by the OECD (\$ 335,000)

*Gender and Markets: Empowering Women in West African Markets (2017)*  
Co-I. Funded by the World Food Program (\$ 112,000)

*Transnational Extremist Organizations Network (2016-17)*  
PI. Funded by Danish Agency for Science and Technology (\$ 45,000)

*West African Perspectives Program III: Cross-Border Cooperation (2015-16)*  
PI. Funded by the OECD (\$ 135,000)

*West African Perspectives Program II: Atlas of the Sahel-Sahara (2013-14)*  
Co-I. Funded by the OECD (\$ 55,000)

*WANETS. West African Economic Networks (2013)*  
PI. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (\$ 90,000)

*CROSSTRADE. Informal Trade and Cross-Border Integration in West Africa (2011-13)*  
PI. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (\$ 625,000)

*EUBORDERSCAPES. Bordering, Political Landscapes and Social Arenas (2012)*  
Collaborator. Funded by the European Commission, 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Program

*MetroNet. Cross-Border Metropolitan Governance in Europe (2010-12)*  
Co-I. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (\$ 1,430,000)

*GEOSPECS. Geographic Specificities and Development Potential in Europe (2010-12)*  
Collaborator. Funded by European Spatial Planning Observation Network (\$ 1,033,000)

*METROBORDER. Cross-Border Polycentric Metropolitan Regions (2009-11)*  
Collaborator. Funded by the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (\$ 287,000)

*METROLUX. Metropolisation and Urban Governance in Luxembourg (2007-09)*  
Co-I. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (\$ 513,000)

*Biodiversity Monitoring and Integrated Development in Hombori (Mali) (2005-09)*  
Collaborator. Funded by the World Wildlife Fund and Leenards Foundation (\$ 21,000)

*Negotiating Conflicts of Interest Related to Water Management (2002-2006)*  
Ph.D. candidate. Funded by the Geneva International Academic Network (\$ 510,000)

## PUBLICATIONS

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Link to [Google Scholar](#) (1575+ citations, i10-index: 42).

### Books

- Walther O, Miles W. (eds) 2018. *African Border Disorders. Addressing Transnational Extremist Organizations*. New York, Routledge.
- Walther O. 2008. *Affaires de Patrons. Villes et Commerce Transfrontalier au Sahel* [Cities and Cross-Border Trade in the Sahel]. Berne, Peter Lang.

### Major reports

- Trémolières M, Walther O, Radil S. (eds) 2021. *Conflict Networks in North and West Africa*. Paris, OECD Publishing.
- Trémolières M, Walther O, Radil S. (eds) 2020. *The Geography of Conflict in North and West Africa*. Paris, OECD Publishing.
- Trémolières M, Walther O. (eds) 2019. *Women and Trade Networks in West Africa*. Paris, OECD Publishing.
- Trémolières M, Walther O. (eds) 2017. *Cross-border Co-operation and Policy Networks in West Africa*. Paris, OECD Publishing.

### Papers in referred journals

- Walther O, Radil S, Russell D, Trémolières M. 2021. Introducing the Spatial Conflict Dynamics indicator of political violence. *Terrorism and Political Violence*.
- Radil S, Irmisher I, Walther O. 2021. Contextualizing the relationship between borderlands and political violence: A dynamic space-time analysis in West and North Africa. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*.
- Walther O, Klatt M, Boedeltje F. 2021. Mapping international co-authorship networks in border studies (1986-2018). *Journal of Borderlands Studies* 36:4, 653-674.
- Prieto Curiel R, Walther O, O'Clery C. 2020. Uncovering the internal structure of Boko Haram through its mobility patterns. *Applied Network Science* 5(28): 1-23.
- Valerio V, Walther O, Eilittä M, Cissé B, Muneeppeerakul R, Kiker G. 2020. Network analysis of regional livestock trade in West Africa. *PLoS ONE* 15(5): 1-15.
- Walther O, Pedersen SP. 2020. Rebel fragmentation in Syria's civil war. *Small Wars & Insurgencies* 31(3): 445-474.
- Walther O, Dambo L, Koné M, van Eupen M. 2020. Mapping travel time to assess accessibility in West Africa: The role of borders, checkpoints and road conditions. *Journal of Transport Geography* 82, 102590.
- Walther O, Leuprecht C, Skillicorn D. 2020. Political fragmentation and alliances among armed non-state actors in North and Western Africa (1997-2014). *Terrorism and*

- Political Violence* 32(1): 167-186.
- Walther O, Dambo L, Koné M. 2020. Urbanisation et villes frontalières en Afrique de l'Ouest. *L'Information Géographique* 85(2): 32-48.
- Walther O, Tenikue M, Trémolières M. 2019. Economic performance, gender and social networks in West African food systems. *World Development* 124: 1-14.
- Skillicorn D, Walther O, Leuprecht C, Zheng Q. 2019. The diffusion and permeability of political violence in North and West Africa. *Terrorism and Political Violence* DOI:10.1080/09546553.2019.1598388.
- Walther O, Koné M. 2018. Commerce de réexportation des textiles et villes frontalières entre Niger et Nigéria. *Cahiers d'Outre-Mer* 278: 465-491.
- Leuprecht C, Walther O, Skillicorn D, Ryde-Collins H. 2017. Hezbollah's global tentacles: A relational approach to convergence with transnational organised crime. *Terrorism and Political Violence* 29(5): 902-921.
- Kuépié M, Tenikue M, Walther O. 2016. Social networks and small businesses performance in West African border regions. *Oxford Development Studies* 44(2): 202-219.
- Leuprecht C, Aulthouse A, Walther O. 2016. The puzzling resilience of transnational organized criminal networks. *Police Practice and Research* 17(4): 376-387.
- Zheng Q, Skillicorn D, Walther O. 2015. Signed directed social network analysis applied to group conflict. *IEEE International Conference on Data Mining Workshop*: 1007-1014.
- Dörry S, Walther O. 2015. Contested relational policy spaces in two European border regions. *Environment and Planning A* 47(2): 338-355.
- Walther O. 2015. Business, brokers and borders: The structure of West African trade networks. *Journal of Development Studies* 51(5): 603-620.
- Walther O, Howard A, Retaillé D. 2015. West African spatial patterns of economic activities: combining the 'spatial factor' and 'mobile space' approaches. *African Studies* 74(3): 346- 365.
- Walther O, Christopoulos D. 2015. Islamic terrorism and the Malian rebellion. *Terrorism and Political Violence* 27(3): 497-519.
- Walther O. 2014. Trade networks in West Africa: A social network approach. *Journal of Modern African Studies* 52(2): 179-203.
- Walther O, Christopoulos D. 2014. The 2012 Malian conflict network. *Connections* 34(1-2): 52-53.
- Dautel V, Walther O. 2014. The geography of innovation in a small metropolitan region: An intra-regional approach in Luxembourg. *Papers in Regional Science* 93(4): 703-726.
- Decoville A, Durand F, Sohn C, Walther O. 2013. Comparing cross-border metropolitan integration in Europe: Towards a functional typology. *Journal of Borderlands Studies* 28(2): 221-237.
- Walther O, Reitel B. 2013. Cross-border policy networks in the Basel region: the effect of national borders and brokerage roles. *Space & Polity* 17(2): 217-236.
- Retaillé D, Walther O. 2013. Conceptualizing the mobility of space through the Malian conflict. *Annales de Géographie* 694(6): 595-618.
- Walther O. 2012. Traders, agricultural entrepreneurs and the development of cross-border regions in West Africa. *Entrepreneurship and Regional Development* 24(3-4): 123-141.
- Walther O. 2012. Sons of the soil and conquerors who came on foot: The historical evolution of a West African border region. *African Studies Quarterly* 13(1-2): 75-92.
- Walther O, Schulz C, Dörry S. 2011. Specialized international financial centres and their crisis resilience: the case of Luxembourg. *Geographische Zeitschrift* 99(2-3): 123-142.
- Retaillé D, Walther O. 2011. Spaces of uncertainty: a model of mobile space in the Sahel.

- Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* 32(1): 85-101.
- Retaillé D, Walther O. 2011. Guerre et terrorisme au Sahara-Sahel: la reconversion des savoirs nomades. *L'Information Géographique* 76(3): 51-68.
- Walther O, Dautel V. 2010. Intra-regional employment growth in Luxembourg (1994-2005). *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography* 92(1): 45-63.
- Walther O, Schulz C. 2009. Finanzplatz Luxemburg – vom 'Steuerparadies' zur Investmentfonds-Kapitale. *Geographische Rundschau* 61(1): 30-35.
- Sohn C, Reitel B, Walther O. 2009. Cross-border metropolitan integration in Europe: the case of Luxembourg, Basel and Geneva. *Environment and Planning C* 27: 922-939.
- Walther O. 2009. A mobile idea of space. Traders, patrons and the cross-border economy in Sahelian Africa. *Journal of Borderlands Studies* 24(1): 34-46.
- Walther O, Retaillé D. 2008. Le modèle sahélien de la circulation, de la mobilité et de l'incertitude spatiale. *Autrepart* 47: 109-124.
- Beek W van, Lemineur P, Walther O. 2007. Tourisme et patrimoine au Mali. Destruction des valeurs anciennes ou valorisation concertée? *Geographica Helvetica* 4: 249-258.
- Walther O. 2007. Villes-frontières et réseaux informels sahéliens (Gaya-Malanville-Kamba). *Geographica Helvetica* 1: 10-20.
- Walther O. 2004. Au-delà de l'opposition entre villes et campagnes. Esquisse d'un modèle territorial dynamique en Afrique de l'Ouest. *L'Information Géographique* 68: 308-319.
- Racine J.-B, Walther O. 2003. Géographie et religions. Une approche territoriale du religieux et du sacré. *L'Information Géographique* 66: 193-221.

## Book chapters

- Walther O, Retaillé D. Mapping the Sahelian space, in Villalon L (ed.) 2021. *The Oxford Handbook of the African Sahel*. Oxford, Oxford University Press: 15-34.
- Walther O. 2018. Regional integration, in Binns T, Lynch K, Nel E (eds) *The Routledge Handbook of African Development*. London, Routledge: 286-299.
- Leuprecht C, Walther O. 2018. Applying social network analysis to terrorist financing, in Walker, King, Gurulé (eds) *The Palgrave Handbook on Criminal and Terrorism Financing Law*. Basingstoke, Palgrave MacMillan: 945-966.
- Walther O, Miles W. 2018. Introduction: states, borders and political violence in West Africa, in Walther O, Miles W. (eds) *African Border Disorders*. New York, Routledge: 1-14.
- Walther O, Leuprecht C, Skillicorn D. 2018. Networks and spatial patterns of extremist organizations in North and West Africa, in Walther O, Miles W. (eds) *African Border Disorders*. New York, Routledge: 60-86.
- Skillicorn D, Walther O, Zheng Q, Leuprecht C. 2018. Spatial and temporal diffusion of political violence in North and West Africa, in Walther O, Miles W. (eds) *African Border Disorders*. New York, Routledge: 87-112.
- Walther O, Retaillé D. 2015. Rethinking borders in a mobile world: An alternative model, in Amilhat-Szary A.-L, Giraut F. (eds) *Borderities and the Politics of Contemporary Mobile Borders*. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan: 191-203.
- Walther O. 2015. Niger-Benin: The Niger-Mekrou Rivers and the Lété Island, in Brunet-Jailly E (ed.) *Border Disputes: A Global Encyclopaedia*. Santa Barbara, ABC-CLIO: 694-704.
- Decoville A, Durand F, Sohn C, Walther O. 2014. Approche comparée de l'intégration métropolitaine transfrontalière en Europe, in Beck J, Wassenberg B (eds) *Vivre et Penser la Coopération Transfrontalière (vol. 6)*. Stuttgart, Franz Steiner: 175-194.

- Walther O. 2014. Borders, cross-border co-operation and freedom of movement in the Sahara-Sahel (chap. 7) and Security issues, movement and networks in the Sahara-Sahel (chap. 8), in SWAC/OECD (ed.) *An Atlas of the Sahara-Sahel: Geography, Economics and Security*. Paris, OECD: 155-172, 173-224.
- Walther O. 2014. La construction historique de la région frontalière du Dendi (Afrique de l'Ouest), in Amadou B, Dambo L. (eds) *Sahel: Entre Crises et Espoirs*. Paris, L'Harmattan: 89-108.
- Retailé D, Walther O. 2014. Space and mobility: Lessons from the Sahel to the globalized world, in Boesen E, Marfaings L (eds) *Mobilité dans l'Espace Ouest-Africain: Ressources, Développement Local et Intégration Régionale*. Paris, Karthala: 207-234.
- Walther O. 2012. Regional growth of the knowledge economy in Luxembourg, in Sohn C. (ed.) *Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region*. Brussels, Peter Lang: 41- 63.
- Walther O, Schulz C. 2012. Financial services clustering in Luxembourg-City, in Sohn C. (ed.) *Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region*. Brussels, Peter Lang: 65- 90.
- Walther O. 2012. Metropolitan regions and cross-border demographic integration, in Sohn C. (ed.) *Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region*. Brussels, Peter Lang: 185-204.
- Sohn C, Walther O. 2012. Building a cross-border metropolitan region: the political stakes of scalar restructuring, in Sohn C. (ed.) *Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region*. Brussels, Peter Lang: 265-278.
- Walther O. 2010. Economie et frontières en Afrique sahélienne: un usage clientéliste de la partition coloniale, in Igué JO, Fodouop K, Aloko-N'Guessan J. (eds) *Maîtrise de l'Espace et Développement en Afrique. Etat des Lieux*. Paris, Karthala: 125-137.
- Schulz C, Walther O. 2009. Finanzplatz Luxemburg, in Bousch P. et al. (eds) *Atlas du Luxembourg*. Cologne, Emons: 130-133.
- Dautel V, Walther O. 2009. Beschäftigungsdynamik in der Metropolregion, in Bousch P. et al. (eds) *Atlas du Luxembourg*. Cologne, Emons: 128-129.
- Racine J.-B, Walther O. 2007. Geografía de las regiones, in Hiernaux D, Lindon A. (eds) *Tratado de Geografía Humana*. Barcelona, Anthropos: 481-505.
- Walther O. 2005. "Merci patron...". L'espérance de recevoir et l'obligation d'offrir dans les relations clientélistes au Niger et au Bénin, in Reynard E, Dambo L. (eds) *Vivre dans les Milieux Fragiles*. Lausanne, Institute of Geography: 60-75.

### Other publications

- Walther O, Radil S, Russell D, Trémolières M. 2020. Introducing the Spatial Conflict Dynamics indicator of political violence. [arXiv](https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.01750) 2003.01750.
- Walther O. 2020. Comment on African Borders: Putting Paid to a Myth. *Journal of Borderlands Studies* 35(2): 311-312.
- Walther O. 2020. Femmes et conflicts en Afrique de l'Ouest. *OECD West African Papers* 28.
- Walther O, Radil S, Russell D. 2019. Mapping the geography of political violence in North and West Africa. [OECD Development Matters](https://www.oecd.org/fr/developpement/development-matters/), 17 Oct.
- Trémolières M, Walther O. 2019. Accessibility and infrastructure in border cities. *OECD West African Papers* 23.
- Trémolières M, Walther O. 2019. Business and health in border cities. *OECD West African Papers* 22.

- Trémolières M, Walther O. 2019. Population and morphology of border cities. *OECD West African Papers* 21.
- Trémolières M, Walther O. 2019. Regional integration in border cities. *OECD West African Papers* 20.
- Walther O. 2019. Rivalries between Dogon and Fulani in Central Mali, personal [blog](#).
- Walther O. 2019. Frontières, sécurité et développement en Afrique de l'Ouest. *OECD West African Papers* 26.
- Pedersen SP, Walther O. 2018. Things Fall Apart - Rebel Fragmentation in Syria's Civil War (2011-2017). [SSRN](#).
- Radil S, Walther O. 2018. Social networks and geography: a review of the literature and its implications. [arXiv](#) 1805.04510.
- Hoffmann L, Melly P, Walther O. 2017. *Empowering Women in West African Markets. Case Studies from Kano, Katsina (Nigeria) and Maradi (Niger)*. Dakar, World Food Programme.
- Walther O. 2017. The blurred boundaries of political violence in the Sahel-Sahara. *OECD Development Matters*, 29 September.
- Walther O. 2017. Wars and conflicts in the Sahara-Sahel. *OECD West African Papers* 10.
- Walther O, Renk S. 2017. *Can social network analysis inform African development policies?* Dakar, World Food Program.
- Walther O. 2017. Cross-border co-operation networks in West Africa. *OECD West African Papers* 6.
- Walther O, Kuépié M, Tenikue M. 2017. When social networks become a burden for African traders. Washington DC, The Brookings Institution, *Africa in Focus Series*, Jan 3.
- Walther O. 2016. Mapping West African Trade Networks. Washington DC, The Brookings Institution, *Africa in Focus Series*, Oct 10.
- Walther, O Leuprecht C., 2015. Mapping and deterring violent extremist networks in North- West Africa. *SDU Department of Border Region Studies Working Paper* 4.
- Walther O, Tisseron A. 2015. Strange bedfellows: a network analysis of Mali's northern conflict. *The Broker*, Dec 18.
- Walther O. 2015. Eating soup with a knife: Confronting warfare in the Sahara. *OECD Observer* 303.
- Walther O, Vollmer S. 2015. Mapping the potential of cross-border cooperation in West Africa. *GREAT Insights* 4(6): 34-36.
- Carpentier S, Dörry S, Lord S, Matthey L, Nelles J, Walther O. 2015. Navigating the heavy seas of online publishing: Reflections on ten years editorship. *Journal of Urban Research*.
- Walther O. 2015. Social Network Analysis and informal trade. *SDU Department of Border Region Studies Working Papers* 1.
- Walther O. 2014. Border markets: An introduction. *Journal of Urban Research* 10.
- Hamez G, Amilhat-Szary A.-L, Paris D, Reitel B, Walther O. 2013. Guest editorial: Modelling and benchmarking of borders. *Belgeo* 1.
- Walther O, Tenikue M, Kuepié M. 2012. Regional trade and border markets between Niger, Benin and Nigeria. *CEPS/INSTEAD Technical Papers* 3.
- Nelles J, Walther O. 2011. Changing European borders: from separation to interface? An introduction. *Journal of Urban Research* 6.
- Schaber C, Walther O. 2010. *Tourism in the Hombori region (Mali)*. Neuchâtel, Hombori Biodiversity Monitoring Project, Mission Report.

- Walther O, Retaillé D. 2010. Sahara or Sahel? The fuzzy geography of terrorism in West Africa. *CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers* 35.
- Walther O, Renaud T, Kissling J. 2008. Heaven on Earth? The development of tourism in the Dogon Country and the Hombori Mountains. *Journal of Urban Research* 4.
- Walther O. 2007. *L'échange généralisé: urbanisation et relations villes-campagnes en Afrique de l'Ouest*. Paris, Sahel and West Africa Club.

## Book reviews

- 2021 Nugent P. Boundaries, communities and state-making in West Africa. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*
- 2019 Schmidt E. Foreign Intervention in Africa after the Cold War. *African Studies Quarterly*
- 2018 Hiribarren V. A History of Borno. *African Studies Quarterly*
- 2017 Pye M. The Edge of the World. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*
- 2016 Bach D. Regionalism in Africa. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*
- 2016 Hanson K.T. Contemporary Regional Development in Africa. *J. of Urban Research*.
- 2014 Lentz C. Land, Mobility, and Belonging in West Africa. *Journal of African History*
- 2012 Retaillé D. Les Lieux de la Mondialisation. *Journal of Urban Research*
- 2011 Popescu G. Bordering and Ordering the 21st Century. *Journal of Urban Research*.  
Glaeser E. Triumph of the City. *Journal of Urban Research*
- 2010 Wolfe T. The Bonfire of the Vanities. *Journal of Urban Research*  
Ackroyd P. London. The Biography. *Journal of Urban Research*
- 2009 World Bank. Reshaping Economic Geography. *European Journal of Geography*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### University of Florida

- *Economic Geography (GEO3502)*, Spring and Fall 2020, 2021
- *Terrorism and Space (GEO6938/4938)*, Spring 2021
- *Politics of Ethnic Conflict (CPO 4721)*, Spring 2018

### University of Southern Denmark

- *New Wars and Conflicts*, graduate course, Spring 2017
- *Economic Geography*, undergraduate course, 2016
- *Social Networks*, undergraduate course, Fall 2014, 2015, 2016
- *Contemporary Perspectives in Border Regions*, undergraduate course, Fall 2015
- *European Integration: the Regional Dimension*, graduate course, Spring 2014, 2015

### Rutgers University

- *Africa in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (478:588)*, graduate course, Fall 2013
- *Geography of Africa (450:338)*, undergraduate course, Spring 2013

### University of Lausanne

- *Transformations of Developing Countries*, graduate course, 2003-06
- *Introduction to Economic Geography*, undergraduate course, 2003-06
- *Cartography*, undergraduate course, 2002-03



## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

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### Conferences/panels organized or chaired

- Chair. *African Borderlands Research Network (ABORNE) Annual Meeting*, Paris, 2020.
- Session organizer. *Space and social networks*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2019.
- Panel organizer. *Cross-border cooperation and policy networks in West Africa*. European Conference on African Studies, University of Basel, 2017.
- Workshop co-organizer. *Transnational Extremist Organizations*, Rutgers, 2016.
- Conference organizer and chair. *Border Regions in Transition (BRIT)*. University of Southern Denmark, 2016.
- Session organizer. *New geographies of war*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 2016.
- Panel organizer. *Cross-border cooperation in an international context*. Uddevalla Symposium, University of Southern Denmark, 2015.
- Session organizer. *Cross-border conflict in West Africa*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2015.
- Organizer. *Guest Lectures on European borders and regional integration*. University of Southern Denmark, 2014-15.
- Moderator. *How to formulate responses to West Africa's multidimensional challenges?* High-level panel, OECD and European Commission, 2014.
- Panel organizer. *Border towns and transport corridors*. Conference of the Association of Borderland Studies, Joensuu, 2014.
- Conference co-organizer. *Unpacking cross-border governance*. Luxembourg, 2012
- Panel organizer. *West African border markets and regional integration from below*. African Borderlands Research Network Conference, Univ. of Edinburgh, 2012.
- Session co-organizer. *Governance and economic integration in urban border regions*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New York, 2012.
- Panel organizer. *Flows and business, components of the mobility of borders*. Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference, Geneva, 2011.
- Session co-organizer. *Space and social networks*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle, 2011.
- Panel co-organizer. *Trade and regional integration*. African Borderlands Research Network Conference, Basel, 2010.
- Session co-organizer. *Borders and cities*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2010.
- Organizer. *Guest Lectures on Changing borders*. Luxembourg, 2010.
- Session co-organizer. *Cross-border metropolitan integration*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, 2009.

### Conference papers (select)

- Conflict networks in North and West Africa. Sahel Coalition, March 30, 2021.
- Mapping transnational conflict in North and West Africa. University of Edinburgh, Centre of African Studies, January 20, 2021.
- Social network analysis: An introduction. State Department, December 10, 2020.
- Analyzing the footprint of a terrorist group to detect its fragmentation and mobility

patterns, Conference on Complex Systems, December 7-11, 2020.

Cities and urbanization in West Africa. Berne, Swiss Development Agency. June 11, 2020.

West African border cities: growth and density. ABORNE annual conference, Lomé, September 16, 2019.

Transnational insurgencies in the Sahel-Sahara. Saharan Futures Conference, Northwestern University, Evanston, April 12, 2019.

West African women's trade networks. African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, November 29, 2018.

More than a metaphor: Reconsidering social networks in human geography. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, New Orleans, April 10-14, 2018.

Mapping West African trade networks. University of Idaho, Geography Seminar, Moscow ID, September 20, 2018.

Security and transnational insurgencies in the Sahara-Sahel. Department of State Analytical Exchange, Washington DC, May 9, 2018.

State border strategies and transnational extremist groups in the Sahel-Sahara. Johns Hopkins SAIS, Washington DC, November 15, 2017.

West African cross-border policy networks. European Conference on African Studies, Basel, June 30, 2017.

Mapping the Sahelian space. Carter Conference, University of Florida, February 23, 2017.

Cross-border cooperation and conflicts. Castle Talks, Sciences Po Strasbourg, November 7-8, 2016.

Transnational Extremist Organizations. DASTI Workshop, Rutgers University, September 19- 20, 2016.

Mapping cross-border policy networks. Swiss Development Agency, Bamako, July 28, 2016. Wars without beginning or end. Baraza Talk, University of Florida, March 11, 2016.

Strange bedfellows: Northern Mali's conflict. Rutgers University, March 9, 2016. Borders, brokers and borders: The structure of West African trade networks. Rurban Conference, University of Copenhagen, January 27, 2016.

The map in our mind: How borders still affect policy-makers in Europe. Kiel University, Kiel, June 15, 2015.

Addressing cross-border economic development in city-regions. Uddevalla Symposium, University of Southern Denmark, Sønderborg, June 11-13, 2015.

Borders and Islamist violence in the Sahel-Sahara. Workshop on Subnational Governance and Conflict. University of Sussex, Brighton, May 21-22, 2015.

Mapping and deterring radical groups in the Sahara-Sahel. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 24, 2015.

Armed conflicts and terrorism in the Sahara-Sahel. Rutgers Division of Global Affairs Colloquium, Newark, April 22, 2015.

Trans-Saharan Islamist networks. United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, New York, April 21, 2015.

Radical Islamic groups and borders in West Africa. Canada-US Cooperation in Trans-Sahel Counter-Terrorism Operations, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo, March 19-20, 2015.

West African border towns: Demography and Economic centrality (1950-2010). Borders at the Interface Conference, Beer Sheva, December 8, 2014.

Comparing policy spaces in border regions. Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference,

Lille, November 7, 2014.

West African border markets, Association for Borderlands Studies (ABS) World Conference, Joensuu, June 9, 2014.

Understanding transnationalism in West Africa. Workshop on Cross-Border Trade, World Bank, Washington, DC, March 3, 2014.

Instability and regional geopolitics, Sahel and West Africa Club Forum, The Future of the Saharo- Sahelian Areas, Abidjan, November 28, 2013.

Cross-border trade networks between Niger, Nigeria and Benin, African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 23, 2013.

Trans-border terrorist networks and the Malian rebellion in the Sahel-Sahara, Association of Borderlands Studies Conference, Denver, April 11, 2013.

Border markets and economic networks in West Africa, African Borderlands Research Network Conference, Edinburgh, 5 June, 2012.

Regional trade and economic networks in West Africa, UK Social Network Analysis Conference (UKSNA), Bristol, 28 June, 2012.

Investigating cross-border networks in European border regions, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, New York City, 25 February, 2012.

Integration of informal economic cross-border networks in West Africa. Working Group meeting on Settlement, Market and Food Security, OECD, Paris, 27-28 October, 2011.

Comparing cross-border metropolitan integration in Europe, Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference, Geneva-Grenoble, 6-9 September, 2011.

Cross-border governance networks in the trinational region of Basel, UK Social Network Analysis Conference (UKSNA), Greenwich, 7-9 July, 2011.

Border markets and economic networks in West Africa, European Conference on African Studies (ECAS4), Uppsala 15-18 June, 2011.

Understanding the spatiality of cross-border governance networks, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle, 12-16 April, 2011.

## **AWARDS AND OTHER GRANTS**

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- University of Florida, travel award, \$1,000 (2017), \$700 (2018)
- Journal of Development Studies' Dudley Seers Prize, £750 (2016)
- Southern Jutland Research Fund, publication grant, €2,000 (2016)
- Carlsberg Foundation, conference grant, €8,000 (2015)
- Southern Jutland Research Fund, conference grant, €7,000 (2015)
- National Research Fund of Luxembourg, exchange visit grant, €78,700 (2013)
- European Science Foundation, exchange visit grant, €3,500 (2010)
- National Research Fund of Luxembourg, research grant, €3,500 (2010)
- National Research Fund of Luxembourg, conference grant, €7,500 (2010)
- Alphonse Weicker Foundation and CEPS, publication grant, €11,700 (2009)
- University of Lausanne, PhD publication grant, CHF 7,000 (2007)
- Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities, PhD Fellowship, CHF 10,000 (2005)
- University of Lausanne, Academic Excellence Award (2002)
- University of Lausanne, Institute of Geography Alumni Association Prize (2001)
- Van Walsem Foundation, Master thesis grant, CHF 3,000 (1999)

### Postdoctoral researcher advising

- Dr. Leena Koni Hoffmann. *The Impact of Local Politics on Cross-Border Trade in West Africa*. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2013-14.
- Dr. Frédéric Durand. *CROSSPLANNING. Comparing Cross-Border Metropolitan Planning*. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2010-11.
- Dr. Jen Nelles. *METROCO-OP. City-Region Governance and Multilevel Policy in Cross-Border Regions*. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2010-11.

### Graduate student advising

- Matthew Pflaum. *Pastoralism and conflict in West Africa*. University of Florida, 2019-
- Valerie Valerio. *Trade networks in West Africa*. University of Florida, 2018-
- Olajumoke Ayandele. *Extreme Ideologies and Conflicts in Africa*. Rutgers, 2016-20
- Rannveig Edda Hjaltadóttir. *Cross-Border Innovation Cooperation*. University of Southern Denmark, 2014-16
- Nino Javakhishvili Larsen, *The role of human capital in regional assemblages*. University of Southern Denmark, 2014-16
- Moustapha Koné. *West African Traders in Border Markets*. LISER, 2011-15

### Master student advising

- Jonas Frandsen Jensen (Islamic State), Steffen Hyldig Jørgensen (dark networks), Mikkel-Emil Hansen (terrorism and crime), 2018, Patrick Steen Pedersen (Syria conflict), 2017, Egle Rymolaityte (regional economic development), 2016, Anders Dohn Sonne (separatism in Europe), Maximilian Zeller (development aid), 2015

### Professional organization service

- Affiliated Faculty, Food Systems Institute, University of Florida, 2021 –
- Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems Technical Evaluation Panel, University of Florida and USAID, 2021 –
- Affiliated Faculty, Center for Global Islamic Studies, University of Florida, 2020 –
- Affiliated Faculty, Center for African Studies, University of Florida, 2019 –
- Faculty Member, Sahel Research Group, University of Florida, 2017 –
- Advisory Council member, Center for African Studies, University of Florida, 2019 –
- Graduate Admission, Awards Committee, Dep. of Geography, U. of Florida, 2020 –
- Social Media committee, Department of Geography, University of Florida, 2019 –
- Digital Editor, Sahel Research Group, University of Florida, 2017 –
- Advisory Board Member, African Governance and Space (AFRIGOS) project, 2016 –
- Executive Committee, African Borderlands Research Network (ABORNE), 2016 –
- Africa Editor, *Journal of Borderlands Studies* (Taylor & Francis), 2015 –
- Editorial Board Member, *Connections* (INSNA), 2015 –
- Digital editor, Centre for Border Region Studies, U. of Southern Denmark, 2014-2021
- Expert, Security & Rule of Law Program, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NL, 2015

- Editor and founder, *Journal of Urban Research*, 2005-2015
- Africa Editor, *Border Disputes: A Global Encyclopedia* (ABC Clío), 2015
- Committee Member, *Remaking Eastern Borders in Europe*, COST ISO 803, 2010-12
- Proofreader, *Geographica Helvetica*, Swiss Journal of Geography, 2003-12

### Peer reviewer

African Security Review; African Studies; Annals of the Association of American Geographers; Belgeo; Entrepreneurship and Regional Development; European Journal of Development Research; Entrepreneurship and Regional Development; Espaces, Populations, Sociétés; Espace Politique; Geopolitics; Global Public Health; Humanities and Social Sciences Communication; International Journal of Geographical Information Science; International Journal of Security and Development; International Small Business Journal; International Trade Journal; Journal of African History; Journal of Alpine Research; Journal of Borderlands Studies; Journal of Development Studies; Journal of Modern African Studies; PLOS ONE; Review of African Political Economy; Review of Network Economics; SAGE; Stability; Terrorism and Political Violence; Transnational Social Review; Social Forces; Social Science Journal; World Development.

### RESEARCH TRIPS AND FOREIGN RESIDENCE

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- United States: 1996, 2013, since 2017
- Denmark: 2014-2017
- Luxembourg: 2007-2012
- Niger: 1987-1989 and 2003, 2004, 2005, 2012, 2017 (3 years in total)
- Benin: 2003, 2004, 2005, 2012, 2017 (9 months in total)
- Nigeria: 2003, 2004, 2005, 2012 (9 months in total)
- Mali: 1999, 2000, 2006 (4 months in total)
- Ghana: 1994 (2 weeks) and 1995 (1 month)
- Mauritania: 2000 (1 month)

### COMPUTER SKILLS

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- Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS)
- Social network analysis (UCINET, ORA)
- Cartography and graphic arts (Illustrator, Photoshop)
- Website management (WordPress, Lodel, Manuscrits, SiteCore, T4)

### LANGUAGES

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French	Native
English	Very good reading, writing and verbal skills Since 2010: Daily practice at work 1996, 2013, since 2017: Stays in the U.S.
German	Good reading, writing and verbal skills 2010-2012: Regular practice at work and frequent interviews 2007-2010: German-French conversation lessons, Luxembourg