In 2015, the world recorded the largest number of displaced individuals in modern history. Across Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe, the environmental, financial, political, and cultural impacts of migrant populations and borderland disputes dominate headlines. Yet in order to contextualize modern crises, it is vital to understand the historical, geographic, demographic, economic, social, and diplomatic dimensions of past border and migration issues.

*Border and Migration Studies Online* helps students and researchers understand today's world through primary source documents, archives, films, and ephemera related to significant border events and areas from the 19th to 21st centuries.

At completion, the collection will include 100,000 pages of text, 175 hours of video, and 1,000 images. In collaboration with an international board of scholars, materials were selected and organized around fundamental themes such as:

- Border Identities
- Border Enforcement and Control
- Border Disputes
- Border Criminologies
- Maritime Borders
- Human Trafficking
- Sea Migration
- Undocumented and Unauthorized Migration
- Global Governance of Migration

The collection combines videos, primary sources, reports, monographs, and photos, representing both personal and institutional perspectives, to provide historical context and primary resources for the growing fields of border(land) studies and migration studies.

Scholars, faculty, and students from many disciplines, including history, law, politics, diplomacy, area and global studies, anthropology, sociology, geography, medicine, the arts, and others, will find useful resources in *Border and Migration Studies Online*.

“It is a fantastic commentary on the inhumanity of our times that for thousands and thousands of people a piece of paper with a stamp on it is the difference between life and death.” — Dorothy Thompson, American journalist and radio broadcaster

**Teaching and Research Applications:**
With *Border and Migration Studies Online*, students and researchers can utilize primary and secondary sources to study borders and migrations through interdisciplinary, comparative, and cross-national perspectives. For example, users can:

- Examine events through the interactions of personal documents (firsthand accounts) and institutional sources (from governments and organizations).
- Compare events related to the walls in Berlin, Israel/Palestine, and U.S./Mexico.
- Evaluate colonial responses to a range of conflicts.
- Examine policies towards control in different settings.
- Research the history of U.S./Mexico relations, Turkey’s evolution, and Latin American borders.
- Explore the situations of refugees in Europe during WWII and compare those with today’s responses.

**Editorial Board:**
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CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS

**Archival documents** provide students and researchers with access to primary sources and rare content rich in information on major border issues.

**National Archives at Kew** – Through a partnership with the National Archives at Kew, *Border and Migration Studies Online* includes archival records that will offer new insights into major border events throughout history, including government and personal accounts, legal perspectives, maps, and more. Highlights include:

- Extract from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Commissioners under the 5th Article of the Treaty of Ghent. Archive: United Kingdom. National Archives at Kew
- Topical maps of Lagunitas. Archive: United Kingdom. National Archives at Kew

**Documentaries** and films highlight specific border issues worldwide as well as the experience of individuals in forced migration situations, such as the refugee crisis of the last decade.

**Like a Man on Earth** (Zalab, 2008) — This film explores the consequences of Italian anti-immigration policy. It consists of accounts by Ethiopian refugees whose “crossing” to Europe came at a high price. The interviews are made by Ethiopian national Dagmawi Yimer, who himself fled political repression in his country in 2005.

**At Home in the World** (DR Sales, 2015) — An intimate depiction of the everyday lives of five refugee children on a Danish Red Cross asylum school. The children have different nationalities and backgrounds, but they have all fled their homes with their families, arriving in Denmark with the hope of starting over.

**Monographs** deliver retrospective analysis for the archival items and documentaries included in this online database. They contextualize the multimedia sources and support understanding of the different views expressed across the database.

**The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies**, Oxford University Press explores the development of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies as an academic discipline and the challenges faced by those who work with displaced populations.

**SPOTLIGHT: U.S. and Mexico**

*Purgatorio: A Journey Into the Heart of the Border*, produced by Rodrigo Reyes, La Maroma Productions, Foprocine and RR Cinema (Surrey, England: Journeyman Pictures, 2015), is a mosaic of vignettes about the everyday struggles of those who work and live in the borderlands separating Mexico and the United States.

*Barbed Wire Fences and Highway Paralleling Mexican Border, June 2, 1919*

*Beyond la Frontera: The History of Mexico-U.S. Migration* examines the transnational and historical impact of migratory trends as they developed in Mexico and the U.S. from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.


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Key Border Events and Areas Covered

- Border Events and Areas Context*
- Afghanistan and its Borders*
- Angola and Namibia
- Argentina and its Borders*
- Austria and Hungary*
- Australia-Indonesia-East Timor*
- Bangladesh and India
- Benin and Nigeria
- Botswana and Namibia
- British Guiana Boundary Disputes (Venezuela and Brazil) *
- Bulgaria, Macedonia, and the Balkans
- Burma and Thailand*
- Burundi and Tanzania
- Cambodia and Thailand*
- Canada and the United States*
- China and its Borders*
- Colombia and Venezuela
- The Congo and its Borders*
- Cuba and the United States*
- Dominican Republic and Haiti
- Eastern European Borders*
- Egypt and its Borders
- European Union and its Borders, Internal and External*
- France and its Borders*
- Germany and its Borders*
- Guatemala and Mexico
- Indigenous Peoples and the Americas
- India and Pakistan*
- Indonesia and Malaysia
- Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria
- Iraq and Syria
- Irish Border*
- Korea and its Borders
- Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan
- Mexico and the United States*
- Morocco and Spain
- Mozambique and its Borders*
- Sea Migrations*
- Sierra Leone and Liberia*
- South Africa and its Borders*
- Sudan and its Borders*
- Turkey and its Borders*

*Content included in the first releases for these subjects. Coverage is subject to change with future releases.

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