



International Symposium

# Populism and Borders: Theoretical Reflections and Empirical Insights

University of Lausanne, Géopolis 1620  
Friday 11 and Saturday 12 November 2022

**Friday**

**11 November 2022**

14:00 - 17:00

Zoom Link: <https://unil.zoom.us/j/96946003143>

14:00 - 14:15 *Introduction* (**Oscar Mazzoleni**, University of Lausanne and **Christian Lamour**, LISER, Luxembourg)

**Session 1 - Chair: Massimiliano Demata (University of Turin)**

- 14:15 - 14:40 *Internal Bordering as a Populist Strategy: Examples from Orban's Hungary and Trump's America* (**James Scott**, University of Eastern Finland)
- 14:40 - 15:05 « *Some are more Equal than Others?!* » - « *Collective Amnesia* » and the Normalization of a Rhetoric of Exclusion (**Ruth Wodak**, Lancaster University)
- 15:05 - 15:30 *Crisis and the Normalization of Politics of Exclusion: Discursive Shifts in European Far Right Imagination* (**Michal Krzyzanowski**, Uppsala University)
- 16:00 - 17:00 General Discussion

**Saturday**

**12 November 2022**

09:00 - 17:00

Zoom Link: <https://unil.zoom.us/j/91558069588>

**Session 2 - Chair: Laurent Bernhard (Universities of Lausanne and Zurich)**

- 09:00 - 09:25 *Populism and Borders: Tools for Constructing « The People » and Legitimizing Exclusion* (**José Javier Olivas Osuna**, UNED)
- 09:25 - 09:50 *Territorializing Threats in Nationalist Populist Narratives: an Italian Perspective on the Migration and Covid-19 Crises* (**Anna Casaglia**, University of Trento)
- 09:50 - 10:15 *The Frontiers of Digital Populism. Activist Networks of Jean-Luc Mélenchon and Marine Le Pen in France* (**Nicolas Hubé**, Lorraine University)
- 10:45 - 11:10 *Populism in Power and its Consequences* (**Manuela Caiani**, Scuola Normale Superiore)
- 11:10 - 12:15 General Discussion

**Session 3 - Chair: Andrea Pilotti (University of Lausanne)**

- 14:15 - 14:40 *Right-Wing Populism in Europe Borderlands: Region with(out) Regionalism and other Complementary Spatial Entities* (**Christian Lamour**, LISER)
- 14:40 - 15:05 *Right-Wing Populist Parties' Bordering Narratives in Times of Crisis: Anti-Immigration Discourse in the Genevan Borderland during the Covid-19 Pandemic* (**Grégoire Yerly**, University of Lausanne)
- 15:05 - 15:30 *Convergence without Conflict? Transborder National-Populist Strategies in Multi-Scalar Spaces of Mobilization* (**Cecilia Biancalana**, University of Turin and **Oscar Mazzoleni**, University of Lausanne)
- 16:00 - 17:00 General Discussion

Right-wing populist parties are gaining more and more salience and visibility within the Western European political landscape. At the same time, these parties strongly mobilize borders to defend their national (and subnational) territories and sovereignty. Hitherto, however, the concepts of populism and borders tend to follow separate paths in current research. This international academic symposium aims to gather scholars from different perspectives to theoretically, empirically, and heuristically reflect on their reciprocal linkages. From linguistics to political science, political communication, political geography, and border studies, this symposium will shed light on how to interdisciplinary tackle populism and borders to better confront the ongoing social, political, economic, and cultural realities and capture the complexity of contemporary borders through multiple perspectives.