



Birte Wassenberg (ed.)

Castle-talks on Cross-Border Cooperation

Fear of Integration? The Pertinence of the Border

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THE EDITOR

Birte Wassenberg is Professor in Contemporary History at the Political Sciences Institute (IEP), University of Strasbourg. From 1993 to 2006, she was Attachée territoriale at the Regional Council of Alsace. Since 2013, she holds a Jean Monnet Chair on the contribution of cross-border cooperation to the European Neighborhood Policy.

In Europe, the Schengen crisis, spurred off by the unexpected migration flow in 2015, led to a re-questioning of the functions of “borders” in European integration. Especially the ideal of a “Europe without borders” is crumbling and the re-introduction of border controls in several EU member states not only slows down the process of European Integration, but also represents an obstacle to cross-border cooperation. One of the main consequences of this crisis is also growing euroscepticism and a new fear of integration which might even lead to the disintegration of the EU. The present publication regroups the contributions to four “castle-talks on cross-border cooperation” organized at the château Pourtalès, in Strasbourg, between 2012 and 2016, in the framework of Birte Wassenberg’s Erasmus and Jean Monnet activities supported by the European Commission. The different contributions deal with the theoretical link between borders, international relations and cross-border cooperation, by examining borders as places of cross-border governance, as gatekeepers of sovereignty and security, as “scars” of history and as places of reconciliation.

CONTRIBUTORS

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