

## CALL FOR CHAPTERS FOR AN EDITED VOLUME

*Tentatively Titled:*

### **Physical and Symbolic Boundaries across the World: An Inquiry into understanding how boundaries segregate, connect and create liminality**

Based on our successful session “Gated Communities: Making and Unmaking Physical and Symbolic Boundaries” at this year’s RGS-IBG Annual Conference 2021 in London, we would like to open a call for chapters on ‘contemporary forms of (symbolic and material) boundaries and how they unfold in space’. We are corresponding with several major publishing houses, which showed interest in our proposal. We now aim at bringing together a list of authors and abstracts to finalise our proposal.

There are many physical boundaries, such as walls, gates, fences, and safety measures taken to keep the dangers out. There are also symbolic boundaries such as economic, cultural, and moral boundaries to secure our differences. Some boundaries appear contradictory to the global(ised) world, which is supposed to be “borderless” thanks to the developments such as the Internet and travel, eliminating boundaries between home and work, and physical and virtual.

There are also efforts to eliminate boundaries between every realm we have taken for granted so far, such as man/woman, nature/culture, wild/tamed, human/non-human. These boundaries are regarded to be socially constructed, creating various forms of hierarchies and inequalities. However, we create new boundaries to segregate ourselves from others, such as passports or IDs. Sometimes we do not see boundaries but “feel” them when we feel lonely and excluded in a new social setting.

We critically examine how these boundaries – tangible or non-tangible- unfold in space. We also ask why they continue to exist in a connected world and why and how people cross and demolish them. We study boundaries in different scales, such as cities, homes, neighbourhoods, countryside, and the Global North and South. We regard space as relational, and multidimensional which reflects diverse cultures and identities.

The subject of the chapters are listed below, but not limited to:

- The boundaries from micro to macro scales (home, neighbourhood, city, region, etc.)
- The construction, deconstruction and reconstruction of boundaries
- Intersections between physical and symbolic boundaries
- Boundaries between public/private, nature/culture, urban/rural, wild/tamed, etc.
- Political divides (North/South, East/West)
- Boundaries and liminality
- Socio-spatial stigma and boundaries

The chapters can be empirical and theoretical and be written in text and alternative forms (photo-essays).

If you are interested in contributing to this book, please send your abstract no more than 400 words with keywords and a short biography to Simone Pekelsma ([simonepekelsma@gmail.com](mailto:simonepekelsma@gmail.com)) and Basak Tanulku ([tanulkub@gmail.com](mailto:tanulkub@gmail.com)) **until 24 December 2021.**

If you have any questions, please write to us.

Best wishes,

Simone Pekelsma and Basak Tanulku

### **Short Bios about the Editors**

Simone Pekelsma, an urban geographer from the Netherlands, works at Utrecht University. Pekelsma also conducts PhD research in Radboud University on gated communities in different countries by adopting a relational and comparative approach to study them.

Dr Basak Tanulku is an independent urban sociologist who specialises in gated communities, socio-spatial fragmentation, urban transformation and vacancy, alternative spaces and initiatives, urban protests and the conflicts emerging in public spaces and commons. Tanulku has a PhD degree in Sociology from Lancaster University.

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