

# **Directors' Introduction**

As this year draws to a close, we would like to share with you some of the achievements of Border Criminologies' members and our plans for next year.2022 has been a busy year for our network. The blog has, as ever, been very active, with more than 15,000 reads. We have established closer working relationships with our colleagues in Australia - the <u>ANSZOC borders group</u>. We have seen some changes in personnel, saying goodbye to Katja Franko and welcoming <u>Marie Segrave</u> into the Associate Director role for Research. We also welcome two new students, <u>Ritu Noushreen</u> and <u>Diana Volpe</u>, who will be assisting Andriani Fili in managing the blog and website.

2022 has also been a yet another busy year of border control. In the UK the passage of the <u>UK Borders Act</u> has formed a key plank in the Conservative government's ever hardening and populist politics.

From their attempt to move people seeking asylum to Rwanda to have their cases heard there, to the creation of the Manston Short-Term Holding Facility, where overcrowding and poor conditions created a public health crisis that ended in a man dying of Diptheria, to government appears intent on rolling back legal protections. Elsewhere, as work from our research network members show, matters are no better. Such policies reveal the importance of Border Criminologies and similar networks across the globe that question existing border policies, expose border harms, and challenge the path set by policymakers.

Next year, 2023, is our tenth anniversary. In celebration, we will be organising a series of workshops and events throughout the year in Oxford and elsewhere, starting with an interdisciplinary workshop in Oxford on Dover on March 3. We will also be hosting a workshop in Oxford on September 11, with more details to follow soon. Please do get in touch if you are attending a conference and would like to organise a 'border criminologies' panel; over the last year we have supported similar panels at the Law & Society, and at the European Society of Criminology meetings, and we would love to do so again.

This term we organised and hosted three events, two book launches (<a href="here">here</a>) and a workshop on the Greek-Turkish border crisis, bringing together practitioners and academics. We also co-hosted with Wolfson film society a <a href="film">film</a> screening of Flee, the Grand Jury Prize winner at this year's Sundance Festival. Big thanks to Samuel Singler and Vicky Taylor for the energy they put in organising these events every year. In November, our <a href="student chapter">student chapter</a> organised its <a href="first">first</a> event on 'Gender and Immigration Detention' with Francesca Esposito. As you see, we have exciting plans for next year.

As part of our planning for the next 10 years (!), we recently commissioned a report on our communications strategy from the South-African-based group, <u>SureFire</u>. In their consultation with network members, Lotte and Olivia, from SureFire, have identified a series of strengths in the organisation, challenges, and future possibilities. A key part of their initial findings has been the strength of the network and the interest and willingness of our members to play a bigger role in the organisation. We are very pleased to hear this and will be reaching out to all of you over the next month or two to harness that enthusiasm. We would also like to hear from you if you have ideas how to support our work in the next year. Like many other networks and organisations of civil society, Border Criminologies is facing a funding crunch, as all the research grants which cover our activities are coming to an end in 2023. As ever, please do let us know if you have any suggestions for financial support that would ensure Border Criminologies continues with our important mission.



As we move into our tenth year of activity, it seems clear that there remains a strong need for the research of the Border Criminologies' network to counter the growing populism and xenophobia. As we look ahead to the next ten years, we face three key challenges. First, we need to think about our audience and our communication. Increasingly, the organisation has begun to <u>issue statements against egregious state policies</u>. We also sign onto other calls for action. While we are, predominantly, an academic organisation we need to think more actively about how to get our research evidence out into policy debate.

Second, it is clear that we need to be mindful of and pay attention to emerging risks, as states and their private sector partners continue to innovate while also relying on familiar discourse and practices. Issues here include the rise of technological border control methods and their inherent dehumanisation of people on the move.

Finally, we need to remember to look for points of commonality and grounds for doing things differently. In this activity, the global response to Ukrainian citizens offers a reminder that states and their populations are not always hostile to foreigners. While, to be sure, the disparity in the policy from the treatment of other groups demands critique, it is important also to reflect on the possibilities that this more welcoming response suggests for our work on challenging border control.

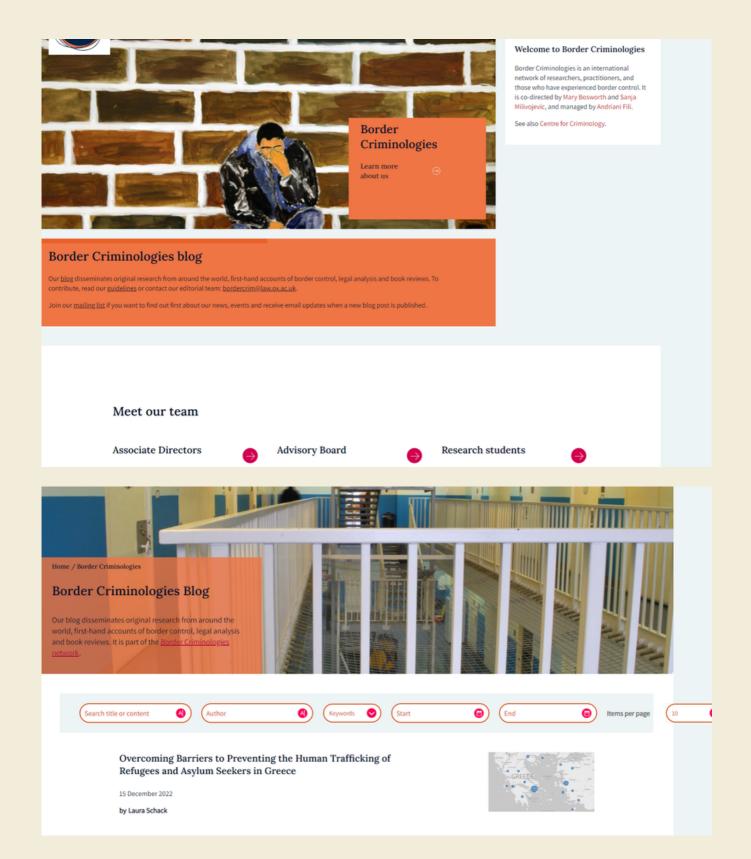
Another area of work, in this regard, that seems underdeveloped, is that on the labour force of those who actually implement border control policies. Here too, there have been some promising developments; in the UK for example, the civil service union joined forces with Detention Action in two legal challenges to the Home Office's policy on the Rwanda Flights and on the conditions of detention at Manston Short-Term Holding facility. These promising developments give us hope, and open a possibility for future engagements.

As our recently-finished Communication strategy demonstrates, the unique value of Border Criminologies is not only in our contribution to the field, our robust research, and policy recommendations. We are so pleased to hear that Border Criminologies means so much to so many, and we thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support. The first ten years of our organisation has been devoted to building the field of study, working with allies and supporting early career academics and those with lived experience. It seems a good time to reflect on what else we can do, and how we might support in more detail those who are trying not only to expose and critique, but to challenge and build alternatives.

Mary and Sanja

### **OUR BLOG AND WEBSITE**

This term our <u>blog</u> and <u>website</u> have been revamped by the Law Faculty in an effort to refresh the Law Faculty web site, and to introduce new functionality to the respective sites, as well as to bring together the collections of blogs. The new layouts look great and they give us the opportunity to present better all the work we are undertaking as a network. As we are still developing some parts and technical characteristics, we would like to hear from you if you have specific ideas of features, you would like us to explore or if you would like us to showcase your work in a creative way.



This term we published 28 blog posts, including 7 book reviews and a themed series on the research of members from the ANSZOC borders group. In our efforts to promote open access platforms we continue our collaboration with Geopolitics, Theoretical Criminology and Punishment & Society, to widen access to academic scholarship on border criminology topics. As part of these collaborations, we engage with authors of full journal articles in order to publish companion pieces based on these articles, offering the article for free for a specific time period. Next term we have several themed series underway, including a series on immigration detention, which will be published as a booklet, and on the criminalisation of facilitation, with posts from people working on the ground in Greece, Italy, France, Malta, Spain, and the UK.

We are also looking for submissions for a developing section on our blog entitled 'Experiences from the field'. This section is specifically dedicated to augment the experiences of those on the ground, activists, community advocates and people directly affected by border violence (experts-by-experience). This new ongoing series has been organised by Francesca Esposito, Victoria Canning and Marta Welander, as part of their continuing work to expand the connections between Border Criminologies and community on the ground. The aim of this platform is to amplify the voices and experiences of those at the forefront of struggles against border violence. These voices, and the meaningful insights they provide, are in fact often overlooked in mainstream academic discourses. This ongoing series attempts to fill this gap. Do get in touch with us if you want to contribute. Examples of previous contributions can be found here and here.

### **NEWS AND OUTREACH**

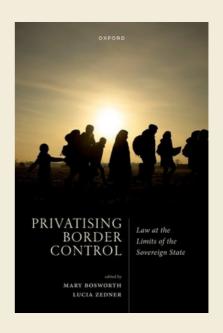
A number of our members have published books and special journal issues this year.

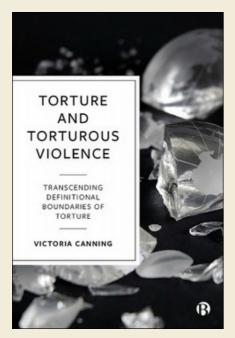
Ana Aliverti curated a Virtual Special Issue on borders and punishment, based on the wealth of critical Border Criminology published in the journal Punishment & Society, which is Open Access until the end of December 2022. You can read the introduction and related papers here. Ana Aliverti and Rimple Mehta have also put together a special edition on 'Southern Perspectives on Border Controls', which is going to be published in the International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Deviance in June 2023. Accompanying posts for each of the contribution will be published on the blog.



Monish Bhatia, together with Ronit Lentin, put together a <u>special issue</u> for the State Crime journal on migration and racist state violence.

Mary Bosworth and Lucia Zedner published an edited collection, Privatising Border Control: Law at the Limits of the Sovereign State, with Oxford University Press. Many of the chapters were contributed by members of the Border Criminologies network.

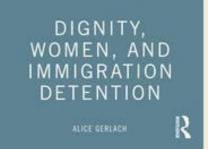




Vicky Canning's book 'Torture and Torturous Violence: Transcending Definitions of Torture' was published by Bristol University Press. Clearly conceptualising torturous violence, this book offers scholars and practitioners critical reflections on how torture is defined and the implications that narrow definitions may have on survivors. Drawing on over a decade of research and interviews with psychologists, practitioners and women seeking asylum, it sets out the implications of the social silencing of torture, and torturous violence specifically. It invites us to consider alternative ways to understand and address the impacts of physical, sexualised and psychological abuses.

Alice Gerlach's book 'Dignity, Women, and Immigration Detention' was published by Routledge. Her book explores the experience of immigration enforcement for women who have been detained in immigration detention in the UK. Drawing upon in-depth interviews with women who have been in immigration detention centres, it demonstrates how immigration detention violates women's sense of dignity and in doing so, causes women to suffer pains that are incongruent with the administrative purpose of immigration removal centres.





In other news,

Ruben Andersson received a Leverhulme major fellowship for the next 3 years. He will be focusing on the expansion of security agendas/practices in a broad sense but with a substantial part concerned with new border and surveillance technologies. More info about the project <u>here</u>.

Monish Bhatia will be working with two interns from Westminster University on creating audio content for the Border Criminologies website.

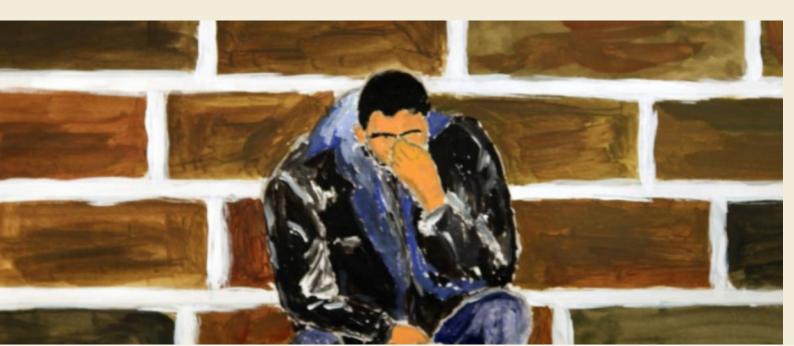
Mary Bosworth is on a well-earned sabbatical leave and has finally started writing up some of her research into immigration detention and deportation.

Andriani Fili has recently finished her PhD and is currently preparing her first monograph Mapping Resistance in Immigration Detention to be published by Routledge in the new year. She is further working on selected publications drawing on her longstanding work on immigration detention issues in Greece. She is also collaborating with activists on the ground to create the first database on human rights violations in Greek immigration detention.

Sanja Milivojevic has been appointed an investigator at the ESRC Centre for Sociodigital Futures at the University of Bristol. The Centre for Sociodigital Futures is a £10m flagship investment from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) to establish an international centre of excellence for sociodigital futures research and collaboration (to run for an initial five years from 2022 to 2027). Sanja will be working on the moving domain of sociodigtal practice, with Professor Bridget Anderson, Dr Travis van Isacker and Dr Charles Heller. More info about the new Centre and the Moving Domain here.

Alpa Parmar has been appointed Lecturer in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice at the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge.

Samuel Singler completed his DPhil and has been working as a Departmental Lecturer at the Centre for Criminology, at the University of Oxford.



#### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Books and edited books**

Bosworth, M. and L. Zedner (Eds.) (2022). Privatising Border Control: Law at the Limits of the Sovereign State. Oxford University Press.

Canning, V. (2023). Torture and Torturous Violence. Bristol: Bristol University Press.

Gerlach, A. (2022). Dignity, Women and Immigration Detention. Abingdon: Routledge.

#### **Journal Articles**

Aliverti, A. (2022). 'Law in the Margins: Economies of Illegality and Contested Sovereignties,' British Journal of Criminology. https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azac078

Bosworth, M. (2022). 'Criminalisation, race, and citizenship in the UK,' Citizenship Studies, 25th Anniversary Special Issue, 26(4-5): 387 – 392.

Bosworth, M. (2022). 'Immigration Detention and Juxtaposed Border Controls on the French North Coast,' European Journal of Criminology. 19(4): 506 -522.

Eagly, I. Gires, T., Kutlow, R., Navarro Gracian, E. (2022). Restructuring Public Defense After Padilla, 74 Stanford Law Review 1. HeinOnline | SSRN

Gerlach, A. (2022). 'Women's experiences of indignity in immigration detention and beyond.' Incarceration. https://doi.org/10.1177/26326663221103437

Milivojevic S (2022) Artificial intelligence, illegalised mobility, and lucrative alchemy of border utopia, Criminology and Criminal Justice, (first published online 21 September 2022).

Parmar, A. (forthcoming) Feeling Race: Mapping Emotions in Policing Britain's Borders. Identities

Parmar, A., Phillips, C and Earle, R. (2022) 'People are Trapped in History and History is Trapped Inside Them': Exploring Britain's Racialized Colonial Legacies in Criminological Research, British Journal of Criminology.

Parmar, A., Earle, R., and Phillips, C. (2022) Seeing is Believing: How the Layering of Race is Obscured by 'White Epistemologies' in the Criminal Justice Field, Journal of Criminal Justice Education, 33 (2)

Tuck, RH, Damsa, D, and Kullman, L. (2022). 'All-foreign prisons in the United States, England and Wales, and Norway: Related logics and local expressions' Theoretical Criminology, Vol 26, Issue 4.

#### **Book Chapters**

Aliverti, A. (2022). 'The privatisation of border controls and the limits of state sovereignty: an afterword' in M. Bosworth and L. Zedner (eds), Privatising Border Control: Law at the Limits of the Sovereign State. Oxford University Press, pp. 244-259

Bosworth, M. and Singler, A. (2022). 'A mundane spectacle? (In)visibility, normalisation and the state in the UK migrant escorting contract' in M. Bosworth and L. Zedner. (Eds.). Privatising Border Control: Law at the limits of the sovereign state, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Tuck, RH (2022) "Because We Are Deportable People": Privatization, Citizenship, and Race in US All-Foreign Prisons" in Bosworth, M. and Zedner, L. (eds.). Privatising Border Control: Law at the limits of the sovereign state, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Zedner, L. and Bosworth, M. (2022), 'Introduction: Border Control, Privatisation and the State' in M. Bosworth and L. Zedner. (Eds.). Privatising Border Control: Law at the limits of the sovereign state, Oxford: Oxford University Press.



## **GET IN TOUCH WITH US**

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