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## Biography

Olivier J. Walther is Associate Professor in Political Science at the University of Southern Denmark (SDU) and a Visiting Associate Professor in African Studies at the University of Florida. At SDU, he is affiliated with both the Center for Border Region Studies (CBRS) and the Center for War Studies (CWS). He received his PhD in geography from the University of Lausanne.

His research and teaching has focused on cross-border trade, cross-border cooperation and terrorism in West Africa. Fluent in English and French, Professor Walther spent part of his youth in West Africa and has worked in Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Ghana, Benin and Mauritania. His work combines geographic information systems, social network analysis, statistical analysis and qualitative interviews. His current research project addresses the development of border cities in 18 West African countries.

Professor Walther has received support for his work from the United Nations World Food Programme, the European Commission, the OECD, the European Spatial Planning Observatory, the governments of Luxembourg and Denmark, and the Carlsberg Foundation. He has collaborated with the World Bank Trade Unit and the United Nations Counter-terrorism Executive Directorate. He has published work in journals such as *Terrorism and Political Violence*, the *Journal of Development Studies*, *Oxford Development Studies*, the *Journal of Modern African Studies*, *Environment and Planning*, and *Entrepreneurship and Regional Development*.

Dr Walther is the Africa Editor of the *Journal of Borderlands Studies* and on the executive committee of the African Borderlands Research Network (ABORNE). He graduated with a BA in Arts from the University of Lausanne, and a MA in Development Studies from the University of Geneva.

Updated CV and recent publications available at: <http://florida.academia.edu/OlivierWalther>

## Education

Ph.D. in Geography, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 2006

Master of Advanced Studies in Development Studies, University of Geneva, 2004

Master of Arts in Geography, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 2001

Bachelor of Arts, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 1999

## Work experience

Visiting Associate Professor, Center for African Studies, University of Florida, United States, 2017 -

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and Public Management, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark, 2014 -

Visiting Assistant Professor, Division of Global Affairs (fall); Geography Department and Center for African Studies (spring), Rutgers University, USA, 2013

Senior Researcher, Department of Geography, Centre for Population, Poverty and Public Policy Studies, Luxembourg, 2007-2012

Visiting Scholar, University of Basel, Switzerland, fall 2010

Research and Teaching Assistant, Institute of Geography, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 2003-2006

## Teaching areas

Border Studies; Social Networks; Economic Geography; War Studies

## Research areas

Cross-Border Economic Development; Cross-Border Trade; Cross-Border Conflicts and Terrorism; Social Network Analysis; Western Europe; Western Africa

## Teaching experience

University of Southern Denmark

- New Wars and Conflicts, 2017, graduate course
- Economic Geography and Regional Economics, 2016, undergraduate course
- European Integration and the Regional Dimension, 2014, 2015, graduate course
- Social Networks, Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, undergraduate course
- Contemporary Perspectives in Border Regions, 2015, undergraduate course

University of Florida

- Politics of Ethnic Conflict (CPO 4721), Spring 2018, undergraduate course

Rutgers University

- Africa in the 21st Century (478:588), Fall 2013, graduate course
- Geography of Africa (450:338), Spring 2013 undergraduate course

University of Lausanne

- The Transformations of Developing Countries, graduate course, 2003-2006
- Introduction to Economic Geography, undergraduate lecture course, 2003-2006
- Cartography, undergraduate seminar course, 2002-2003

## Graduate advising

### Postdocs

Dr. Leena Koni Hoffmann. The Impact of Local Politics on Cross-Border Trade in West Africa. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2013-14

Dr. Frédéric Durand. CROSSPLANNING. Comparing Cross-Border Metropolitan Planning. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2010-11

Dr. Jen Nelles. METROCO-OP. City-Region Governance and Multilevel Policy in Cross-Border Regions. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2010-11

### Ph.D. candidates

Olajumoke Ayandele, *Extreme Ideologies and Conflicts in Africa*. Rutgers University, 2016

Nora Stambolic. *Cross-Border Metropolitan Integration and Multinational Firms' Networks: The Cases of Luxembourg and Geneva*. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2012 -

Rannveig Edda Hjaltadóttir. *Cross-Border Innovation Cooperation*. Funded by INTERREG 4A, University of Southern Denmark, 2014-16

Nino Javakhishvili Larsen, *The role of human capital in regional assemblages*. Funded by INTERREG 4A, University of Southern Denmark, 2014-16

Moustapha Koné. *West African Traders in Border Markets: Building a Business Community*. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, 2011-15

## Research projects

- Cities and Borders (2017-18)

Principal Investigator. Funded by the OECD (\$ 335,000)

- Gender and Markets: Empowering Women in West African Markets (2017)

Coordinator. Funded by the World Food Programme (\$ 112,000)

- Transnational Extremist Organizations Network (2016-17)

Principal Investigator. Funded by Danish Agency for Science and Technology (€ 39,000)

- West African Futures Program III: Cross-Border Cooperation (2015-16)

Principal Investigator. Funded by the Sahel and West Africa Club, OECD (€ 118,000)

- West African Futures Program II: Atlas of the Sahel-Sahara (2013-14)  
Partner. Funded by the Sahel and West Africa Club, OECD (€ 48,000)
- WANETS. West African Economic Networks (2013)  
Principal Investigator. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (€ 78,700)
- CROSSTRADE. Informal Trade and Cross-Border Integration in West Africa (2011-13)  
Principal Investigator. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (€ 545,000)
- EUBORDERSCAPES. Bordering, Political Landscapes and Social Arenas: Potentials and Challenges of Evolving Border Concepts (2012)  
Partner. Funded by the European Commission, 7th Framework Programme
- MetroNet. Cross-Border Metropolitan Governance in Europe (2010-12)  
Lead Partner. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (€ 1,246,000)
- GEOSPECS. Geographic Specificities and Development Potential in Europe (2010-12)  
Partner. Funded by the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (€ 900,000)
- METROBORDER. Cross-Border Polycentric Metropolitan Regions (2009-11)  
Partner. Funded by the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (€ 250,000)
- METROLUX. Metropolisation and Urban Governance in Luxembourg (2007-09)  
Lead Partner. Funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (€ 447,000)
- Biodiversity Monitoring and Integrated Development in Hombori (Mali) (2005-09)  
Partner. Funded by the World Wildlife Fund and Leenards Foundation (CHF 21,000)
- Negotiating Conflicts of Interest Related to Water Management (2002-2006)  
Ph.D. candidate. Funded by the Geneva International Academic Network (CHF 510,000)

## Publications

### Papers in refereed journals

- Walther O, Leuprecht C, Skillicorn D. 2017. Political fragmentation and alliances among armed non-state actors in North and Western Africa (1997-2014). *Terrorism and Political Violence* DOI:10.1080/09546553.2017.1364635.
- Leuprecht C, Walther O, Skillicorn D, Ryde-Collins H. 2017. Hezbollah's global tentacles: A relational approach to convergence with transnational organised crime. *Terrorism and Political Violence* 29(5): 902-921.
- Leuprecht C, Aulthouse A, Walther O. 2016. The puzzle of the resilience of transnational organized criminal networks. *Police Practice and Research* 17(4): 376-387.
- Kuepié M, Tenikué M, Walther O. 2016. Social networks and small businesses performance in West African border regions. *Oxford Development Studies* 44(2): 202-219.
- Zheng Q, Skillicorn D, Walther O. 2015. Signed directed social network analysis applied to group conflict. *Proceeding of the IEEE International Conference on Data Mining*, 1007-1014.
- Dörry S, Walther O. 2015. Contested relational policy spaces in two European border regions. *Environment and Planning A* 47(2): 338-355.
- Walther O. 2015. Business, brokers and borders: The structure of West African trade networks. *Journal of Development Studies* 51(5): 603-620.
- Walther O, Howard A, Retailié D. 2015. West African spatial patterns of economic activities: combining the 'spatial factor' and 'mobile space' approaches. *African Studies* 74(3): 1-19.
- Walther O. 2014. Trade networks in West Africa: A social network approach. *Journal of Modern African Studies* 52(2): 179-203.
- Walther O, Christopoulos D. 2015. Islamic terrorism and the Malian rebellion. *Terrorism and Political Violence* 27(3): 497-519.
- Walther O, Christopoulos D. 2014. The 2012 Malian conflict network. *Connections* 34(1-2): 52-53.
- Dautel V, Walther O. 2014. The geography of innovation in a small metropolitan region: An intra-regional approach in Luxembourg. *Papers in Regional Science* 93(4): 703-726.

Decoville A, Durand F, Sohn C, Walther O. 2013. Comparing cross-border metropolitan integration in Europe: Towards a functional typology. *Journal of Borderlands Studies* 28(2): 221-237.

Walther O, Reitel B. 2013. Cross-border policy networks in the Basel region: the effect of national borders and brokerage roles. *Space & Polity* 17(2): 217-236.

Retaillé D, Walther O. 2013. Conceptualizing the mobility of space through the Malian conflict. *Annales de Géographie* 6: 595-618.

Walther O. 2012. Traders, agricultural entrepreneurs and the development of cross-border regions in West Africa. *Entrepreneurship and Regional Development* 24(3-4): 123-141.

Walther O. 2012. Sons of the soil and conquerors who came on foot: The historical evolution of a West African border region. *African Studies Quarterly* 13(1-2): 75-92.

Walther O, Schulz C, Dörny S. 2011. Specialized international financial centres and their crisis resilience: the case of Luxembourg. *Geographische Zeitschrift* 99(2-3): 123-142.

Retaillé D, Walther O. 2011. Spaces of uncertainty: a model of mobile space in the Sahel. *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* 32(1): 85-101.

Walther O, Dautel V. 2010. Intra-regional employment growth in Luxembourg (1994-2005). *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography* 92(1): 45-63.

Walther O, Schulz C. 2009. Finanzplatz Luxemburg–vom 'Steuerparadies' zur Investmentfonds-Kapitale. *Geographische Rundschau* 61(1): 30-35.

Sohn C, Reitel B, Walther O. 2009. Cross-border metropolitan integration in Europe: the case of Luxembourg, Basel and Geneva. *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* 27: 922-939.

Walther O. 2009. A mobile idea of space. Traders, patrons and the cross-border economy in Sahelian Africa. *Journal of Borderlands Studies* 24(1): 34-46.

Walther O, Retaillé D. 2008. Le modèle sahélien de la circulation, de la mobilité et de l'incertitude spatiale. *Autrepart* 47: 109-124.

### **Books**

Walther O, Miles W. (eds) 2018. *African Border Disorders. Addressing Transnational Extremist Organizations*. New York, Routledge.

Trémolières M, Walther O. (eds) 2017. *Cross-border Co-operation and Policy Networks in West Africa*. Paris, SWAC/OECD.

Walther O. 2008. *Affaires de Patrons. Villes et Commerce Transfrontalier au Sahel [Cities and Cross-Border Trade in the Sahel]*. Berne: Peter Lang.

### **Book chapters**

Walther O, Retaillé D. Mapping the Sahelian space, in Villalon L(ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of the African Sahel*. Oxford, Oxford University Press (forthcoming).

Leuprecht C, Walther O. Applying social network analysis to terrorist financing, in Walker, King, Gurule (eds) *The Handbook on Criminal and Terrorist Financing Law*. Basingstoke, Palgrave MacMillan (forthcoming).

Walther O. 2017. Regional integration and cross-border cooperation, in Binns T, Nel E, Lynch K (eds) *Handbook of African Development*. London, Routledge.

Walther O, Retaillé D. 2015. Rethinking borders in a mobile world: An alternative model, in Amilhat-Szary A.-L, Giraut F. (eds) *Borderities and the Politics of Contemporary Mobile Borders*. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan: 191-203.

Walther O, Amadou B, Koné M. 2015. Niger-Benin: The territorial dispute over the Niger and Mekrou rivers and the Lété Island, in Brunet-Jailly E (ed.) *Border Disputes: A Global Encyclopaedia*. Santa Barbara, ABC-CLIO: 694-704.

Decoville A, Durand F, Sohn C, Walther O. 2014. Approche comparée de l'intégration métropolitaine transfrontalière en Europe, in Beck J, Wassenberg B (eds) *Vivre et Penser la Coopération Transfrontalière* (vol. 6). Stuttgart, Franz Steiner: 175-194.

Walther O. 2014. Borders, cross-border co-operation and freedom of movement in the Sahara-Sahel (chap. 7) and Security issues, movement and networks in the Sahara-Sahel (chap.8), in SWAC/OECD (ed.) An Atlas of the Sahara-Sahel: Geography, Economics and Security. Paris, OECD: 155-172, 173-224.

Walther O. 2014. La construction historique de la région frontalière du Dendi (Afrique de l'Ouest), in Amadou B, Dambo L. (eds) Sahel: Entre Crises et Espoirs. Paris, L'Harmattan: 89-108.

Retaillé D, Walther O. 2014. Space and mobility: Lessons from the Sahel to the globalized world, in Boesen E, Marfaings L (eds) Mobilité dans l'Espace Ouest-Africain: Ressources, Développement Local et Intégration Régionale. Paris, Karthala: 207-234.

Walther O. 2012. Regional growth of the knowledge economy in Luxembourg, in Sohn C. (ed.) Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region. Brussels: Peter Lang: 41-63.

Walther O, Schulz C. 2012. Financial services clustering in Luxembourg-City, in Sohn C. (ed.) Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region. Brussels: Peter Lang: 65-90.

Walther O. 2012. Metropolitan regions and cross-border demographic integration, in Sohn C. (ed.) Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region. Brussels: Peter Lang: 185-204.

Sohn C, Walther. 2012. Building a cross-border metropolitan region: the political stakes of scalar restructuring, in Sohn C. (ed.) Luxembourg: An Emerging Cross-Border Metropolitan Region. Brussels: Peter Lang: 265-278.

Walther O. 2010. Economie et frontières en Afrique sahélienne: un usage clientéliste de la partition coloniale, in Igué JO, Fodouop K, Aloko-N'Guessan J. (eds) Maîtrise de l'Espace et Développement en Afrique. Etat des Lieux. Paris: Karthala: 125-137.

Schulz C, Walther O. 2009. Finanzplatz Luxemburg, in Bousch P. et al. (eds) Atlas du Luxembourg. Cologne: Emons: 130-133.

Dautel V, Walther O. 2009. Beschäftigungsdynamik in der Metropolregion, in Bousch P. et al. (eds) Atlas du Luxembourg. Cologne: Emons: 128-129.

Racine J.-B, Walther O. 2007. Geografía de las religiones, in Hiernaux D, Lindon A. (eds) Tratado de Geografía Humana. Barcelona: Anthropos: 481-505.

Walther O. 2005. "Merci patron...". L'espérance de recevoir et l'obligation d'offrir dans les relations clientélistes au Niger et au Bénin, in Reynard E, Dambo L. (eds) Vivre dans les Milieux Fragiles. Lausanne: Institute of Geography: 60-75.

#### **Other publications**

Pedersen SP, Walther O. 2018. Things Fall Apart - Rebel Fragmentation in Syria's Civil War (2011-2017) (June 20, 2018). SSRN, <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3200011>

Radil S, Walther O. 2018. Social networks and geography: a view from the periphery. *arXiv* <https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.04510>.

Hoffmann L, Melly P, Walther O. 2017. *Empowering Women in West African Markets. Case Studies from Kano, Katsina (Nigeria) and Maradi (Niger)*. Dakar, World Food Programme.

Walther O. 2017. The blurred boundaries of political violence in the Sahel-Sahara. *OECD Development Matters*, 29 September.

Walther O. 2017. Wars and conflicts in the Sahara-Sahel. *OECD West African Papers*10.

Walther O, Renk S. 2017. *Can social network analysis inform African development policies?* Dakar, World Food Programme.

Walther O. 2017. Cross-border co-operation networks in West Africa. *West African Papers* 6. Paris, OECD Publishing.

Walther O, Kuépié M, Tenikue M. 2017. When social networks become a burden for African traders. Washington DC, The Brookings Institution, Africa in Focus Series, Jan 3.

Walther O. 2016. Mapping West African Trade Networks. Washington DC, The Brookings Institution, Africa in Focus Series, Oct 10.

Walther O, Leuprecht C, Skillicorn D. 2016. Wars Without Beginning or End: Violent Political Organizations and Irregular Warfare in the Sahel-Sahara. *arXiv* <http://arxiv.org/abs/1606.02705>

Skillicorn D, Walther O, Zheng Q, Leuprecht C. 2016. Distance, Borders, and Time: The Diffusion and Permeability of Political Violence in North and West Africa. *arXiv* <http://arxiv.org/abs/1606.02700>

Walther O, Tisseron A. 2015. Strange bedfellows: a network analysis of Mali's northern conflict. *The Broker*, Dec 18.

- Walther O. 2015. Eating soup with a knife: Confronting warfare in the Sahara. *OECD Observer* 303, Sept.
- Walther O, Vollmer S. 2015. Mapping the potential of cross-border cooperation in West Africa. *GREAT Insights* 4(6): 34-36.
- Carpentier S, Dörry S, Lord S, Matthey L, Nelles J, Walther O. 2015. Navigating the heavy seas of online publishing: Reflections on ten years editorship. *Journal of Urban Research*, <http://articulo.revues.org/2726>
- Walther O, Leuprecht C. 2015. Mapping and deterring violent extremist networks in North-West Africa. Sønderborg, Department of Border Region Studies Working Papers 4.
- Walther O. 2015. Social Network Analysis and informal trade. Sønderborg, Department of Border Region Studies Working Papers 1.
- Walther O. 2014. Border markets: An introduction. *Journal of Urban Research* 10, <http://articulo.revues.org/2532>.
- Kuepié M, Tenikué M, Walther O. 2014. Small businesses performance in West African border regions: Do social networks pay off? Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 6.
- Walther O, Retaillé D. 2014. Rethinking borders in a mobile world: An alternative model. Sønderborg, Department of Border Region Studies Working Papers 3.
- Walther O. 2014. Business, brokers and borders: The structure of West African trade networks. Sønderborg, Department of Border Region Studies Working Papers 1.
- Dörry S, Walther O. 2013. Relational policy spaces in border regions. Luxembourg, CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 23.
- Retaillé D, Walther O. 2013. L'actualité sahélo-saharienne au Mali: une invitation à penser l'espace mobile. *Annales de Géographie* 694(6): 595-618.
- Hamez G, Amilhat-Szary A.-L, Paris D, Reitel B, Walther O. 2013. Guest editorial: Modelling and benchmarking of borders. *Belgeo* 1, <http://belgeo.revues.org/10659>.
- Walther O, Christopoulos D. 2012. A social network analysis of Islamic terrorism and the Malian rebellion. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 38.
- Walther O, Tenikue M, Kuepié M. 2012. Regional trade and border markets between Niger, Benin and Nigeria: A methodological note. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Technical Papers 3.
- Walther O, Reitel B. 2012. Cross-border policy networks in the trinational region of Basel. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 26.
- Retaillé D, Walther O. 2012. New ways of conceptualizing space and mobility: Lessons from the Sahel to the globalized world. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 24.
- Walther O. 2012. Regional trade and economic networks in West Africa. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 7.
- Nelles J, Walther O. 2011. Changing European borders: from separation to interface? An introduction. *Journal of Urban Research* 6, <http://articulo.revues.org/1658>.
- Dautel V, Walther O. 2011. The geography of innovation in the Luxembourg metropolitan region: an intra-regional approach. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 38.
- Retaillé D, Walther O. 2011. Guerre et terrorisme au Sahara-Sahel: la reconversion des savoirs nomades. *L'Information Géographique* 76(3): 51-68.
- Walther O. 2011. Sons of the soil and conquerors: The historical construction of the Dendi border region (West Africa). Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 20.
- Decoville A, Durand F, Sohn C, Walther O. 2010. Spatial integration in European cross-border metropolitan regions: A comparative approach. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 40.
- ESPON. 2010. METROBORDER. Cross-border Polycentric Metropolitan Regions. Final Report. Luxembourg, European Spatial Planning Observation Network.
- Schaber C, Walther O. 2010. Tourism in the Hombori region (Mali). Neuchâtel: Hombori Biodiversity Monitoring Project,

Mission Report.

Walther O, Retaillé D. 2010. Sahara or Sahel? The fuzzy geography of terrorism in West Africa. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Working Papers 35.

Dautel V, Walther O. 2009. Croissance de l'emploi et mobilité des entreprises au Luxembourg. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Population & Territoire 15.

Sohn C, Walther O. 2008. Géographie des activités économiques métropolitaines au Luxembourg. Luxembourg: CEPS/INSTEAD Population & Territoire 14.

Walther O, Renaud T, Kissling J. 2008. Heaven on Earth? The development of tourism in the Dogon Country and the Hombori Mountains (Mali). *Journal of Urban Research* 4, <http://articulo.revues.org/417>.

Beek W van, Lemineur P, Walther O. 2007. Tourisme et patrimoine au Mali. Destruction des valeurs anciennes ou valorisation concertée? *Geographica Helvetica* 4: 249-258.

Walther O. 2007. Villes-frontières et réseaux informels sahéliens (Gaya-Malanville-Kamba). *Geographica Helvetica* 1: 10-20.

Walther O. 2007. L'échange généralisé: urbanisation et relations villes-campagnes en Afrique de l'Ouest. Paris: Sahel and West Africa Club.

Walther O. 2006. Le développement touristique dans les Monts Hombori (Mali). Neuchâtel: Hombori Biodiversity Monitoring Project, Mission Report.

Walther O. 2004. Au-delà de l'opposition entre villes et campagnes. Esquisse d'un modèle territorial dynamique en Afrique de l'Ouest. *L'Information Géographique* 68: 308-319.

Racine J.-B, Walther O. 2003. Géographie et religions. Une approche territoriale du religieux et du sacré. *L'Information Géographique* 66: 193-221.

**Book reviews** Walther O. 2018. Review of Hiribarren V. A History of Borno. *African Studies Quarterly*.

Walther O. 2017. Review of: Pye M. The Edge of the World. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*.

Walther O. 2016. Review of: Bach D. Regionalism in Africa. *Journal of Borderlands Studies*.

Walther O. 2016. Review of: Hanson K.T. Contemporary Regional Development in Africa. *Journal of Urban Research*, <http://articulo.revues.org/475>.

Walther O. 2014. Review of: Lentz C. Land, Mobility, and Belonging in West Africa. *Journal of African History* 55: 124-126.

Walther O. 2012. The production of places in the globalized world. Review of: Retaillé D. Les Lieux de la Mondialisation. *Journal of Urban Research*, [articulo.revues.org/2107](http://articulo.revues.org/2107).

Walther O. 2012. The changing forms and nature of borders. Review of: Popescu G. Bordering and Ordering the Twenty-first Century. *Journal of Urban Research*, [articulo.revues.org/2107](http://articulo.revues.org/2107).

Walther O. 2011. Expanding economic life: the potentialities and future of cities. Review of: Glaeser E. Triumph of the City. *Journal of Urban Research*, [articulo.revues.org/1793](http://articulo.revues.org/1793).

Walther O. 2011. New York City: A burning portrait of urban America. Review of: Wolfe T. The Bonfire of the Vanities. *Journal of Urban Research*, [articulo.revues.org/1654](http://articulo.revues.org/1654).

Walther O, Matthey L. 2010. The city as body. Review of: Ackroyd P. London. The Biography. *Journal of Urban Research*, [articulo.revues.org/1304](http://articulo.revues.org/1304).

Walther O. 2009. The beginning of a space odyssey? Review of: World Bank. Reshaping Economic Geography. *European Journal of Geography*, [cybergeog.revues.org/22771](http://cybergeog.revues.org/22771).

## Organized sessions and conferences

DASTI Workshop on Transnational Extremist Organizations, Rutgers University. Co-organizer (13 papers), 2016.

Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference. Chair (150 papers), 2016

New geographies of war. Panel organizer, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco (10

papers), 2016

Cross-border cooperation in an international context  
Uddevalla Symposium, University of Southern Denmark (5 papers), 2015

European borders and regional integration  
Guest lecture series, University of Southern Denmark (11 speakers), 2014-15

How to formulate responses to West Africa's multidimensional challenges?  
High-level panel, OECD and European Commission (6 speakers), 2014

Border towns and transport corridors  
Panel, World Conference of the Assoc. of Borderland Studies, Joensuu (5 papers), 2014

Does Mali matter? What's at risk in the ongoing Sahel crisis  
Public lecture, Rutgers University, 2013

Metrolux 2012 Conference on 'Unpacking cross-border governance'  
Co-organizer (35 papers), 2012

West African border markets and regional integration from below  
Panel, African Borderlands Research Network Conference, Edinburgh (4 papers), 2012

Governance and economic integration in urban border regions  
Session, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, NYC (5 papers), 2012

Flows and business, components of the mobility of borders  
Session, Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference, Geneva (4 papers), 2011

Space and social networks  
Sessions, AAG Annual Meeting, Seattle (10 papers), 2011

Trade and regional integration  
Panels, African Borderlands Research Network Conference, Basel (9 papers), 2010

Changing borders: from separation to interface?  
Series of lectures funded by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg (8 lectures), 2010

Borders and cities: perspectives from North America and Europe  
Sessions, AAG Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (15 papers), 2010

Cross-border metropolitan integration: towards a comparative perspective  
Session, AAG Annual Meeting, Las Vegas (4 papers), 2009

## **Conference papers (selected)**

State border strategies and transnational extremist groups in the Sahel-Sahara. Johns Hopkins SAIS, Washington DC, Nov 15, 2017.

West African cross-border policy network. European Conference on African Studies, Basel, Jun 30, 2017.

Mapping the Sahelian space. Carter Conference, University of Florida, Feb 23, 2017.

Cross-border cooperation and conflicts. Castle Talks, Sciences Po Strasbourg, Nov 7-8, 2016.

Transnational Extremist Organizations. DASTI Workshop, Rutgers University, 19-20 September, 2016.

Mapping cross-border policy network. Swiss Development Agency, Bamako, 28 July, 2016.

Wars without beginning or end. Baraza Talk, University of Florida, March 11, 2016.

Strange bedfellows: Northern Mali's conflict. Rutgers University DGA Colloquium, March 9, 2016.

Borders, brokers and borders: The structure of West African trade networks. Rurban Conference, University of Copenhagen, keynote, January 27, 2016.

The map in our mind: How borders still affect policy-makers in Europe. Kiel University Geography Colloquium, Kiel, June 15, 2015.



Mapping and deterring radical groups in the Sahara-Sahel. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago, 24 April, 2015.

Armed conflicts and terrorism in the Sahara-Sahel. Rutgers Division of Global Affairs Colloquium, Newark, April 22, 2015

Trans-Saharan Islamist networks. United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, New York, April 21, 2015.

Radical Islamic groups and borders in West Africa. Canada-US Cooperation in Trans-Sahel Counter-Terrorism Operations, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo, March 19-20, 2015.

West African border towns: Demography and Economic centrality (1950-2010). Borders at the Interface Conference, Beer Sheva, December 8, 2014.

Comparing policy spaces in border regions. Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference, Lille, November 7, 2014.

West African Border Markets: Functional Dynamics and Policy Implications, Association for Borderlands Studies (ABS) World Conference, Joensuu, June 9, 2014.

Understanding transnationalism in West Africa: a network approach. Workshop on Cross-Border Trade, World Bank, Washington, DC, March 3, 2014.

Instability and regional geopolitics, Sahel and West Africa Club Forum, The Future of the Saharo-Sahelian Areas, Abidjan, November 28, 2013.

Cross-border trade networks between Niger, Nigeria and Benin, African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 23, 2013.

Trans-border terrorist networks and the Malian rebellion in the Sahel-Sahara, Association of Borderlands Studies Conference, Denver, April 11, 2013.

Border markets and economic networks in West Africa, African Borderlands Research Network Conference, Edinburgh, 5 June, 2012.

Regional trade and economic networks in West Africa: A social network approach, UK Social Network Analysis Conference (UKSNA), Bristol, 28 June, 2012.

Investigating cross-border networks in European border regions, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, New York City, 25 February, 2012.

Integration of informal economic cross-border networks in West Africa. Working Group meeting on West African Futures: Settlement, Market and Food Security, OECD, Paris, 27-28 October, 2011.

Comparing cross-border metropolitan integration in Europe, Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference, Geneva-Grenoble, 6-9 September, 2011.

Cross-border governance networks in the trinational region of Basel, UK Social Network Analysis Conference (UKSNA), Greenwich, 7-9 July, 2011.

Border markets and economic networks in West Africa, European Conference on African Studies (ECAS4), Uppsala 15-18 June, 2011.

Understanding the spatiality of cross-border governance networks, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle, 12-16 April, 2011.

## **Awards and other grants**

University of Florida, travel award, \$1,000 (2017)

Journal of Development Studies' Dudley Seers Prize, £750 (2016)

Carlsberg Foundation, Conference grant, €8,000 (2015)

Southern Jutland Research Fund, Conference grant, €7,000 (2015)

National Research Fund of Luxembourg, Exchange visit grant, €78,700 (2013)

European Science Foundation, Exchange visit grant, € 3,500 (2010)

National Research Fund of Luxembourg, Research grant, € 3,500 (2010)

National Research Fund of Luxembourg, Conference grant, € 7,500 (2010)

Alphonse Weicker Foundation and CEPS/INSTEAD, Publication grant, € 11,700 (2009)

University of Lausanne, PhD publication grant, CHF 7,000 (2007)

Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities, Doctoral Fellowship, CHF 10,000 (2005)

University of Lausanne, Academic Excellence Award (2002)

University of Lausanne, Institute of Geography Alumni Association Prize (2001)

Van Walsem Foundation, Master thesis grant, CHF 3,000 (1999)

### **Other professional responsibilities**

Advisory Board Member, African Governance and Space (AFRIGOS) project, 2016 –

Executive Committee, African Borderlands Research Network (ABORNE), 2016 –

Expert, Security & Rule of Law Program, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands, 2015 –  
Africa Editor, Journal of Borderlands Studies (Taylor & Francis), 2015 -

Editorial Board Member, Connections (INSNA), 2015 -

Editor, Journal of Urban Research, 2005-15

Africa Editor, Border Disputes: A Global Encyclopaedia (ABC Clio), 2012-13

Managing Committee Member, EastBordNet. Remaking Eastern Borders in Europe, COST Action IS0803 funded by the EU, 2010-12

Proofreader, Geographica Helvetica, Swiss Journal of Geography, 2003-12

### **Research trips and foreign residence**

- United States: 1996, 2013, since 2017

- Denmark: 2014-17

- Luxembourg: 2007-2012

- Niger: 1987-1989, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2012 (3 years in total)

- Benin and Nigeria: 2003, 2004, 2005, 2012 (9 months in total)

- Mauritania: 2000 (one month)

- Mali: 1999 (one month), 2000 (3 months), 2006 (2 weeks)

- Ghana: 1994 and 1995 (one month each)

### **Languages**

French: Native

English: Very good reading, writing and verbal skills  
2010-present. Daily practice at work

German: Good reading, writing and verbal skills  
2010-2012. Regular practice at work and frequent interviews  
2007-2010. German-French conversation lessons, Luxembourg

## **Computer skills**

- Microsoft Office applications
- Social network analysis (UCINET, ORA)
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (ArcGIS)
- Cartography and statistics for the social sciences (SPSS)
- Graphic arts (Illustrator)
- Website management (WordPress, Lodel, Manuscripts)

## **Referee**

African Security Review, African Studies, Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Belgeo, Entrepreneurship and Regional Development, L'Espace Politique, Geopolitics, International Journal of Security and Development, International Small Business Journal, International Trade Journal, Journal of African History, Journal of Borderlands Studies, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Modern African Studies, OECD Development Co-Operation Directorate, PLOS ONE, Review of African Political Economy, Review of Network Economics, Stability, Terrorism and Political Violence, Transnational Social Review, Social Science Journal, World Development.