

**Call for proposals:
Palgrave Series in
African Borderlands Studies**

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macmillan

African borderlands are among the continent's most creative and most rapidly changing social spaces. Borderlands are the theatre for identity formation and cultural exchange, for violent conflicts and regional integration, for economic growth and sudden stagnation, for state building and state failure. Because their unique position at the margins of two (or more) social and legal spaces offers more flexibility to social actors, borderlands reflect changes on the national level more quickly and more radically than most inland places. This turns borderlands into hotspots of social activity and, on an academic level, into ideal places to study social, political and economic change. In the African context, they are relatively under-studied.

African Borderlands is the first series dedicated to the empirical exploration and theoretical interpretation of African borderlands. It contributes to core debates in a number of disciplines - namely political science, geography, economics, anthropology, history, sociology and law - and provides vital insights into practical politics surrounding border-related issues, ranging from migration and regional integration to conflict resolution and peace building.

The series is connected to ABORNE, the African Borderlands Research Network, and the homonymous networking programme financed by the European Science Foundation (ESF). All interested scholars, regardless of whether or not they are network members and/or are Europe-based, are invited to submit proposals. We are looking for monographs and edited volumes that make contributions to our factual and theoretical understanding of African borderlands, based on empirical research and related to the existing literature in the field. We especially welcome comparative work and studies that use specific borderlands to address more general issues of borderlands research.

Please do not submit full manuscripts, but send proposals organized along the attached outline. The editors will try to decide on the proposal within four weeks; if the decision is positive, we will ask for submission of the full manuscript, which will be sent to two external reviewers. However, we encourage potential authors to contact us at an early stage of writing, even if the manuscript is not yet ready for review.

For more information, please contact the series editors:

Gregor Dobler, Basel (gregor.dobler@unibas.ch)

William F.S. Miles, Boston (b.miles@neu.edu)

Paul Nugent, Edinburgh (paul.nugent@ed.ac.uk)



This form is intended to give our editors a clear idea of your project in a concise manner. Please provide as much as possible of the material and information requested. On submission your proposal will be read by the appropriate editor and/or sent out for peer review. It is our goal to make publication decisions as quickly and efficiently as possible. However, the peer review process does take time, so if there are any timing issues specific to your project that we should bear in mind (e.g., the proposal is under consideration by another publisher), please let us know.

1) Proposed title and subtitle of your work.

2) Brief Description: In one short paragraph explain the scope of your project: What are the core themes, arguments, issues, and/or topics of the work? What are the distinctive and original elements of your project that set it apart from other work in the field?

3) Full Description: In one to two pages, please elaborate on the core argument(s) and goal(s) of the proposed book. What questions do you seek to answer? What do you believe will be the book's contribution to the literature in its field?

4) Proposed Chapter Outline: Please provide a chapter by chapter synopsis of the project's planned content and main argument(s). In order for us to make an accurate assessment of the project's potential, please provide as much detail as possible, including a title and a descriptive paragraph for each chapter (approx. 100 words each).

If you have sample material available (either draft chapters or other writing sample) it would be helpful to include this as well.

5) Market and Competition: Please indicate the *primary market* for your project, i.e. who will read and buy the book. If it is aimed toward students, what specific courses is it written for and at what level? What are typical enrollment numbers for such courses? Would your project be suitable as the main reading for the class or as supplementary reading?

Please list any secondary markets that may exist for the book (i.e., library market, academic associations, etc.)

Please list (including author, title, and publisher) competing or complementing titles. These do not need to be direct competitors but simply what your primary readership is buying/using at the moment. What sets your book apart from these titles and would persuade potential readers to buy it?

6) Relation to the Series: How does the volume relate to the *African Borderlands Series*? Why do you think it should be published here? How does it contribute to the series aims?

7) Additional Information: What is the expected length of the manuscript (in either total words, including notes, or double-spaced pages)? Will there be pictures, tables, or other non-text material, and, if so, approximately how many? Are there any other particular features planned for the book (e.g., boxed text, glossary, activities, study questions, instructor's guide, etc.)?

8) Delivery date: What is your current schedule for completing the manuscript?

9) Peer Review: If there are people well qualified to offer an objective assessment of your proposal, we encourage your suggestions.

10) Author Information: Please provide complete contact information for yourself and any co-authors/co-editors as well as a short bio or complete CV. For edited collections, please provide short bios for all contributors as well.

Please send the proposal to all three series editors:

Gregor Dobler (gregor.dobler@unibas.ch), Bill S. Miles (b.miles@neu.edu) and
Paul Nugent (paul.nugent@ed.ac.uk)