## BRIT Conference Brings Together Top International Scholars to Discuss Future of Borders in Sønderborg and Hamburg

Press release, 5 May 2016

The Danish-German border region will host one of the largest scientific conferences devoted to borders on 17-20 May 2016. Organized between Hamburg and Sønderborg, the objective of the 15<sup>th</sup> Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference is to rethink the complicated relationships that bind cities and state borders.

The conference will offer a unique opportunity to explore the collaborative or competitive strategies of cities and states under the current circumstances of globalization. Particular attention will be paid to the conceptual and empirical contributions that explore globalized cross-border metropolises, divided cities, securitized cities, and small border cities. The conference will make a significant contribution to the academic and policy debates related to the opening and securitization of borders in Denmark, the European Union, and the world.

The BRIT 2016 Conference will bring together more than 160 scholars, practitioners and policy-makers from 28 countries. Five internationally renowned keynote speakers have been invited from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Austria and Sweden to debate current challenges related to border regions and cities.

The conference is the result of a cross-border collaboration between the Centre for Border Region Studies at the University of Southern Denmark, the University of Hamburg and the HafenCity University Hamburg. It is financially supported by the Municipality of Sønderborg, the Carlsberg Foundation, Sønderjyllands Forskningsfond, and LINAK.

## **About BRIT Conferences**

Building on a tradition born more than 20 years ago in Berlin, the Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) conferences have now become leading forums for academics, policy-makers and practitioners interested in the functional interdependences, institutional relationships and tighter securitization which have critically changed the functions and significance of borders over the last decades.

## **Conference website**

http://www.sdu.dk/en/om\_sdu/institutter\_centre/i\_graenseforskning/events/brit+2016

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