



Borders: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

By Alexander C. Diener, Joshua Hagen

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Compelling and accessible, this *Very Short Introduction* challenges the perception of borders as passive lines on a map, revealing them instead to be integral forces in the economic, social, political, and environmental processes that shape our lives. Highlighting the historical development and continued relevance of borders, Alexander Diener and Joshua Hagen offer a powerful counterpoint to the idea of an imminent borderless world, underscoring the impact borders have on a range of issues, such as economic development, inter- and intra-state conflict, global terrorism, migration, nationalism, international law, environmental sustainability, and natural resource management. Diener and Hagen demonstrate how and why borders have been, are currently, and will undoubtedly remain hot topics across the social sciences and in the global headlines for years to come. This compact volume will appeal to a broad, interdisciplinary audience of scholars and students, including geographers, political scientists, anthropologists, sociologists, historians, international relations and law experts, as well as lay readers interested in understanding current events.

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Review

"From private gated communities to fenced national borders and from gerrymandered electoral districts to bounded fiscal spaces, we all live with (and against) barriers. This lively, brief, current, impressively comprehensive and theoretically as well as philosophically inclusive 'introduction' is much more than that - it's terrific coverage."--Harm de Blij, John A. Hannah Professor, Michigan State University

About the Author

Alexander C. Diener is an Assistant Professor of Geography at the University of Kansas. He is the author of *One Homeland or Two?: Nationalization and Transnationalization of Mongolia's Kazakhs*.

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