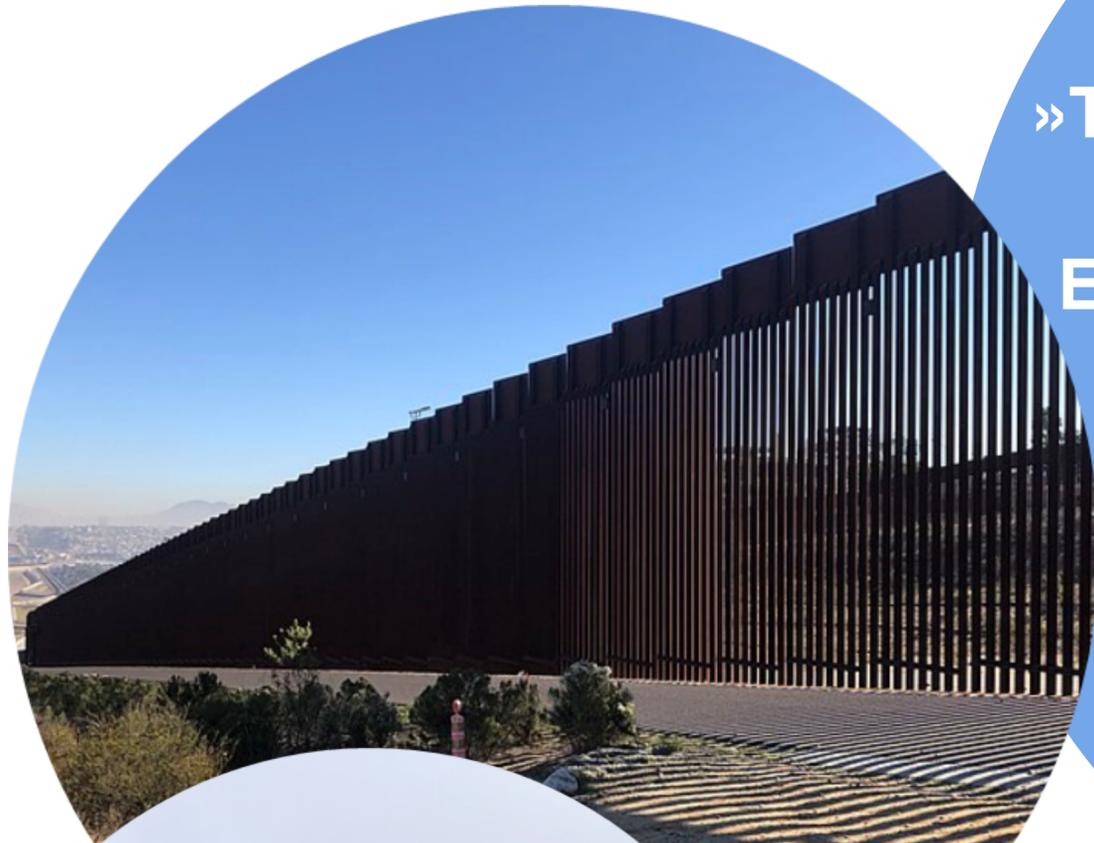


# »Temporalities of Migration at the US-Mexico Border: Ethnographic narratives and Literary Approaches«

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## “Border Temporalities: Doing Literature in a World of Walls” *Lecture Series*

### Lecture

Thursday, 11 January 2024

6:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

ZI Lateinamerika-Institut, Room 201  
Rüdesheimer Str. 54-56, 14197 Berlin

**Organisation:** Prof. Dr. Susanne Klengel (klengel@zedat.fu-berlin.de)

**A collaboration of:** Research Area 1 »Competing Communities« at the Cluster of Excellence  
»Temporal Communities: Doing Literature in a Global Perspective« (Freie Universität Berlin)  
and ZI Lateinamerika-Institut (Freie Universität Berlin)

Since its existence, the northern Mexican border city of Tijuana has been shaped by diverse migratory movements. For a long time, it functioned as a transit point, where the majority of migrants stayed for a few days before applying for asylum or starting their irregularized journey across the border to the United States. However, looking at Tijuana today, it becomes evident that over the last few years the city has become a “waiting room” for a large part of the migrant population. This is due to a set of migration policies that hinder migrants from entering the US and deliberately put them in a state of prolonged waiting. With recourse to ethnographic material from her recent fieldwork at the US-Mexico border, Pia Berghoff explores these temporal dimensions of transit migration and their reflection in the migrants’ narratives. Recent literary approaches to transit migration through Mexico and the US-Mexico border are used to complement and contextualize these narratives. Furthermore, as Pia Berghoff will show, they open up valuable perspectives on the important methodological question: How can and should migration be researched and portrayed?