# CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION TERRITORIAL STRATEGY IN THE CONTEXT OF SOFT BORDER AS A MODERN PERSPECTIVE



#### Sami Bentaleb

University of Ghardaia, , Laboratory: Tourism, Territory & Institutions, (Algeria) <a href="mailto:bentaleb.sami@univ-ghardaia.dz">bentaleb.sami@univ-ghardaia.dz</a>

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#### Abstract:

This study focusses on cross-border cooperation in a global world, based on Territorialist Approach, establishing regional strategies to ensure borderlands and communities sustainable development either internally and externally, analyzing actors' role contributing in this process, and their impacts at various scales of border societal life in context of soft borders as a modern perspective.

Thus, the study based on the descriptive and analytical methods, as research results called for territorial cross-border strategies between neighboring states, engaging local communities and government to ensure sustainability and social security, particularly in globalization era, where supranational factors overlapped.

*key words:* Cross-Border Cooperation-Territorial Strategy Sustainable Development-Territorialist Approach-Soft Border Modern Perspective.

# ملخص:

تركز هذه الدراسة على التعاون عبر الحدودي في عالم شامل، اعتمادا على نهج إقليمي يمكن من وضع إستراتيجيات إقليمية مشتركة تضمن تنمية مستدامة للمناطق والمجتمعات الحدودية على المستويين الداخلي والخارجي، وتحليل دور الفواعل المختلفة المساهمة في هذه العملية، وتأثيراتها على مستويات مختلفة من الحياة المجتمعية الحدودية في إطار دعوة تؤسّس لمفهوم الحدود الناعمة من منظور حديث.

كما اعتمدت الدراسة المنهج الوصفي والتحليلي، حيث أثبتت نتائج البحث ضرورة دعم الإستراتيجيات الإقليمية عبر الحدود بين الدول المتجاورة، وإشراك المجتمعات المحلية والسياسات الحكومية لضمان الإستدامة والأمن المجتمعي، خاصة في عصر العولمة حيث تتداخل عوامل فوق قطرية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التعاون العبر حدودي-الإستراتيجية الإقليمية-التنمية المستدامة-الإقتراب الإقليمي- الحدود الناعمة منظور حديث.

#### **Introduction:**

Borders and cross-border issues become among the most important phenomenons of modern border studies field given to geostrategic relevance that characterized them, particularly in Globalization era, where we witnessed the spread and expansion of some concepts such us cross-border cooperation which represented as a theme of this subject, as an impact of penetrated global thought into human life aspects and manifestations. in terms of conceptualizing shaping, it comes to some, that cross border movements and activities refer to physical transactions only, but rather, it include intangible transactions as well, covering various levels at local border areas and regional border territories shared between states in the context of boundaries neighboring.

The purpose of cross-border cooperation supposes the existence of some specific initiatives and strategies at both local and regional scales, basically established by legal entities in cooperation with other actors such as private sector, borderlands communities and individuals in light of participatory approach and the shifting of border functions from traditional to modern vision represented in the turn from rigid to soft borders in light of modern perspective. Thus, it is an interdependent multidisciplinary operation, aggregating economic, socio-cultural, security-political, environmental human dimensions as a key aiming to create and innovate an effective space-from a spatial dimension-encouraging and embracing multimodal cooperation modes, that can achieve the great goals as a response to border territories societal security needs and will, in accordance to border Humanitarization aim in general, According to this, the main problematic that we look to answer through this study is:

# .To what extent can cross-border cooperation contributing in sustaining territorial borders development in all societal aspects, in light of the emergence of new Local, Regional & International factors?

Based on this, the study relied on the descriptive, analytical and predictive methods in the context of borders softening and Territorialist strategies as a basic approach and perspective for analysis, adopting both following hypotheses:

- Borders and border communities are an essential component of national identity with the ability to change the negative stereotype from traditional perspective.
- Cross-border cooperation is a strategic mechanism, calling for a regional approach with a developmental dimension in light of soft borders as a modern perspective in global world.

The research study aimed to call for territorial cross-border strategies at neighboring states stage, engaging formal and informal actors to ensure sustainability and social security, in light of the emergence and the overlap of supranational factors in globalized world.

Accordingly, the paper plan was divided into two main parts: Chapter (I): Border & Cross-Border Theoretical Conceptualization, and Chapter (II): Cross-Border Cooperation: Multidisciplinary View from Modern Perspective.

# CHAPTER (I): BORDER & CROSS-BORDER: THEORETICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION

The discussion of cross border issues as one of the main subjects of border studies, requires first to have a look on some essential concepts as field fundamentals, in order to be able in controlling research concepts and tools.

# I-1- Border & Relating Concepts:

According to international law, a borderline separates two sovereign States or territories delimiting national identity. Borders often refer to dividing lines between populations in terms of language, ethnicity or traditions. Although States have the right objecting any other external country activities on their territory, as it is possible in context of foreign law and relations to be present (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), 2012, p 248). Therefore, "linear border" refers to clear territorial delimitation and demarcation of spheres of state sovereignty; total and careful state control over the borderline; the dominance of internal relations over trans-border relations; and the perception of borderlines as being a permanent phenomenon. Therefore, this borders perception is promoting a military-political purpose, and largely concealing other important border functions (Alexander A.Zyikov, Sergei V.Sevastianov, 2015, p 120).

Borders are not just lines marking limiting a specific territory. They can be studied as obstacles against different flows and interactions. Borders are often direct, physical barriers with protective controls such as border checkpoints, visa regimes, taxes. But indirectly, affecting the behaviour of people. However, this could be changed to find different practices and functions of bordering, also border emerging as a social construct. In addition, Physical borders can be turned relatively comparing with mental intangible borders, which can be rather sticky and soft.

Furthermore, borders can have some positive distinction, or an appealing degree, which regarded as an important asset for regional development, such as tourist attraction, an interface of functional integration and synergies source, a space for resource-sharing, cross-cultural learning or strategic gateways lines. Based on this approach, borders or at least, some parts of them, are spaces stimulating for interaction, co-operation and integration, leading to the rise to new governance structures like in European regions and even, distinct cross-border regional identities (Sarolta Németh, Ágnes Németh, Virpi Kaisto, 2019, p3).

There are some important intertwined concepts, shaping the spirit of borders in general, they differ from each other in terms of concept characteristics and institutional identification, but in fact, they are pouring in the same mold. We try citing them accordingly:

**A- Boundaries:** "are used interchangeably with borders in most academic and policy documents. They are the juridical extent of state territoriality; they determine the limits of territorial sovereignty of states. In other words, boundaries define the geographic limits of political entities or legal jurisdiction (Michael Kehinde, 2012, p52). "Anderson and O'Dowd (1999) submit that boundaries are the "container" within which national space is delineated and "contained". Boundaries not only give form and character to the national space they contain, they also separate the geographic space of one political entity from another (Michael Kehinde, 2012, p52).

**B- Border zones:** this term could be used in three ways:

"Firstly, it is used to refer to a region on adjacent sides of a border line that forms a single social, economic or ethnic entity" (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), 2012, p 249). Regions of this type are particularly have borderlines established by foreign powers, as for example in Africa, where colonial powers have splitted homogeneous populations through different countries during the nineteenth century. Border zones are also defined by markets, which ensure substantial income for local suppliers on both sides internal-External of a borderline. Secondly, it is sometimes defined as a strip of territory on a borderline side. As border areas are often used for concealing large quantities of smuggled goods, so its purpose is to combat it, and in this context, Western European countries have given the entire powers to customs officers in searching and arresting at border areas. It is same case for USA, where customs agents have entire powers as well in pursuing smugglers from border areas into deep of city. Even for France, where border zones concept is extended to cover entire territory, focusing on some prohibited goods types such as drugs, weapons, counterfeit and high-excise products such as tobacco and alcohol. Thirdly, the term border zone could refer to the control at a border station, authorizing border officials to checking, or controlling area within inland facilities, such as Customs Depots (ICDs), logistics and warehouses clearance centers (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), 2012, p 249).

**C-Border stations:** is a place where compliance and conformity checks take place to ensure that any activity involving the crossing of the border meets the requirements of national legislation and standards.

By final, we perceive that the concept of border is expressing a complexed phenomenon in form and content, due to its bifurcation, in which the modern border studies treats it as a multidisciplinary phenomenon as borders should be studied by different field of sciences, such as political, economic, social, environmental and security field. Moreover, multifunctional, as it has different

relating concepts, referring to the vast theoretical space of border, where the flexibility and regeneration characterize this domain, especially while the emergence of new factors at local, regional and international level as a response to globalization impacts.

# **I-2- Cross-border Cooperation:**

Generally, cross-border areas researches compare the living conditions at both sides level and the relations across the border, considering the political order of the two states, geostrategic balance, historical border establishment, openness and permeability degree, emotional loadings. The cross-border cooperation is not limited to involve border regions or cities only, but also big centers, such as capitals (Marcela, ŞLUSARCIUC, 2015, p 143).

Local cross-border cooperation between neighboring countries emerged since in 1950s, while the absence of state bans on free trade and business activity. By the 1970s in Western Europe, trans-border projects had become a common phenomenon in areas where populations sharing similar history, cultural and socio-economic characteristics. As example, the Basel region that unites border areas communities of Switzerland, France and Germany. Despite the limited scope of cooperative interactions, in the aim of solving common local problems (Alexander A. Zyikov, Sergei V. Sevastianov, 2015, p.p 122.123). We can say, "The basis of the birth of border areas and cross-border regions is the existence of cross-border movements and interactions maintained with the neighbouring border area" (Tamás Hardi, Andrea Uszkai, 2017, p14). In addition, "The growing intensity of global political and economic ties and their regional manifestations caused a revival of cross-border cooperation along the borders of the international system" (Alexander A. Zyikov and Sergei V. Sevastianov, 2015, p 119).

In the social sciences field, there is no single concept of "trans-boundary". It relates to important concepts such as cooperation, interaction, region or territory. The original meaning of "trans- boundary" belonged to traditional political-geographical approach, where it consists of two words. The term "trans": means through, across or behind, it is a movement through any space, crossing it, the other side of anything, or a transfer through something. "Boundary" is a strip, surface, or line separating, defining some otherwise homogeneous areas. Therefore, the "trans-boundary" is a passage of a boundary across an integrated territorial region (Alexander A. Zyikov and Sergei V. Sevastianov, 2015, p 119). Trans-border relations are considered as a system of interaction inter-actors at various sizes, such as government, regional political and economic elite, down to the population of border areas, in a process, where integrated spaces emerged transcending the neighboring nations borders (Alexander A. Zyikov and Sergei V. Sevastianov, 2015, p 118).

Trans-border region as a phenomenon gained during 1980–1990s a new level of cooperation, within the expansion of its geographic scope into East Asia and Latin America. European Outline Convention on Trans-border Cooperation between Territorial Communities or local authorities-1980 provided a support to border regions cooperation, focusing on the concept of territorial community. It meant that state authorities are not sole actor implementing local and regional, but other communities are taking an interactive position too. The Convention adoption in 1980 in Madrid institutionalized trans-border cooperation as different phenomenon from border and cross-border relations, by pushing state's to develop trans-border relations and supporting cooperation at legislative level, so determining the administrative status of trans-border cooperation, while its space and scale is defined by the development at social, economic, political and community socio-cultural level (Alexander A. Zyikov and Sergei V. Sevastianov, 2015, p.p 123.124).

For many years, spatial development concepts have played a special role in shaping cross-border territories. They can be considered the main genuine cross-border planning instrument. Despite their informal character, they have demonstrated that they: Are a flexible, informal planning tool, which could be targeted to specific cross-border territorial boundaries. Evoking communicative process, activating stakeholders, analyzing the statistical initial situation, including cross-border region potentials. Offering learning background to spatial planning for involved stakeholders in shaping cross border spatial planning. Contributing in diverging regional objectives, harmonization—shifting competition to cooperation (Beate Caesar, Karina Pallagst, 2018, P 18).

Through all above, we need to refer to one important point, which is the emergence linguistic difference between cross-border and trans-border. We can clearly see this, while on hand this latter trans-border or trans-bordering expressing an old traditional trend, confining to political and economic level, as we say transnational level which refer to a moral description characterizing an up national phenomenon at government and politics level, and even for economic field, where the concept is describing economic transshipment operations acrossing border territories. On the other hand, cross-border conceptually and practically is so large than trans-border, it is including all transiting operations and phenomenons-such as political, social, economic, environmental and security ones at both local and regional border areas- that relate to border which is regarded as a territorial space embracing all of them or at least a part of regional border territory. In addition to that, both cross-border or trans-border meanings, generally implemented and applicable at local national level between national border areas or zones, as at regional and international level between states in the context of regional cooperation or integration.

# CHAPTER (II): CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION: MULTIDISCIPLINARY VIEW FROM MODERN PERSPECTIVE

Within this part, we will discuss three main elements, first, Territorialist approach that supports the purpose of cross-border cooperation, divided into three sub-elements: approach framework, impact of globalization on territorial & international borders, and cross-bordering regional strategies. Second, manifestations & impacts of cross-border cooperation, divided into two main sub-elements: at socio-cultural & economic level and at political, human & security level.

# **II-1- Territorialist Approach:**

# **A- Approach Framework:**

Territorialist Approach is a multi-disciplinary cross-cultural approach destined for territorial studies, which emerged in mid-1980s, developed by an international and interdisciplinary group of scholars. In 2010 this latter created the Territorialist Society, as a non-profit organization encouraging scientific discussions on territory theoretical and methodological views. It considers "territory" as the result of human settlements interaction and environment, creating tangible and intangible civilization meanings and expressing local relations, shaping the local identity. Therefore, cross-border territories regarded as complex territorial units, where border functions and turn in national, subnational and international relations influenced geographical, socioeconomic and cultural patterns (Matteo Berzi, p 10). "There is therefore a feedback mechanism between space and the development of the economic and social system (Sébastien BOURDIN, 2014, p 46).

Both formal and informal local cross-border networks are sharing a preserved local milieu. An example, European integration processes provided political, financial and legal support to local Cross-Border Cooperation, presenting an opportunity for local agents to develop joint actions and ventures enhancing borderlands. Therefore, the local milieu or space represents an important factor for local development (Matteo Berzi, p 9).

Borders directly affect local socioeconomic and cultural patterns; this is a reason for Territorialist approach to perceive borderland milieu and identity as a special territory. By the end of 19<sup>th</sup> century, social, cultural and territorial changes were induced at borderlands by nation-states territorialities. Thus, borderlanders can benefit from real living conditions at border and develop economic, cultural and political cross-border neighbouring interactions. Where local agents cooperate in facing common needs, enhancing local space and designing joint territorial actions. Since 1990s, the EU's cohesion policies are creating "Inter-regions programmes" to support this kind of interaction, and more recently introducing

European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC), as a specific cross-border legal framework (Matteo Berzi, p 19). In fact, cross border flows of goods, services, transport, and people movements suffered and still from a silo approach management or top oriented management, such immigration or security policies. For this reason, sectoral and inter-sectoral strategies for border agencies are necessarily to be used in the context of overarching strategy, in order to create a flexible system opening supportive prospects for freedom of movements and activities.

The main important issue relating to borders policy is how to create a balance of fortification needs and the need for soften border controls; balancing the legal flows of people goods services and capital in context of economic development and territories domestic political stability, while keeping non-legal flows out. Shortly, how balancing the need for mobility with the need for control. Political decisions are needed for this balance, which is based on promoting economic growth and softening border controls, preserving people security, rights and freedoms and reinforcing borders (Otwin Marenin, 2010, p 28).

# **B-Impact of Globalization on Territorial & International Borders:**

Despite globalization impacts in de-territorialization\*, Neoliberal globalization did not realize a total borderless world as planned, but it reproduce shifting relations between the state, capital and labour, as well as escalating conflicts over citizenship and identity, inclusion and exclusion. In terms of international migration, over 300 million people were living outside their original countries in 2016, regardless of reasons or goals (Pier Paolo. Frassinelli, 2020, P5).

According to "Governa" (1997), the milieu or place does not referring to a foundation of a specific local collective identity only, but also to territory potentials development. The global inputs-such as economic globalization, encouraging de-territorialization processes at local level, unbinding the place functions- and local context are adopted through local territorial network, creating a motivated territory, thereby supporting local development process (Matteo Berzi, p 19).

The cooperation between local and regional authorities at different border sides empowers relations between regions and countries. The cross-border regions governance cannot be approached in traditional political or territorial sense, instead having the networks approach among many public and private actors realizing together different social systems based on different system values (Marcela ȘLUSARCIUC, 2015, p 142).

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<sup>\*</sup> De-territorialization is the separation of social, cultural and political practices (such as people, objects, languages, or traditions) from a location. (De-territorialization, <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deterritorialization">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deterritorialization</a>, viewed on February 11<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 14h:00).

By engendering de-territorialization, while some types of socioeconomic organization, activity, and identity cross state borders, contemporary globalization is viewed as a parallel force to bordering. However, instead of producing a borderless world globalization, it should be understood as involving to twin process of re-territorialization, so, a re-bordering in different way from modern state bordering in form, function and scale. As example is provided by the process of European integration (Re-territorialization) through the Single European Act, by rebordering or reconfiguring borders, represented in shifting from "hard borders" into "soft borders", enabling the free flow of goods and services.

The dominant understanding of border conflicts and cross-border cooperation in two-folds: firstly, in contemporary global context, the idea of cross-border cooperation and borders reconfiguring from hard security barriers to spaces for contact, communication and cooperation is belonging to a pre-2001 era while envoguing for "borderless world"; secondly, the security turn has marginalized border conflicts relevance. In terms of the security-identity nexus, imagined borders of the state continue offering notions of security even after the removal practical bordering functions of borders (Large-Scale Integrating Project, 2011, p 78).

In terms of sovereignty and freedom, transnational institutions look for more or less significant limits on state's power in human rights, economic activity domains, etc. In part, there is a growing interdependence between states, reducing their action freedom influenced by self-limitations or outside imposed restrictions. While in other part, states internal processes are increasingly focusing on outside influences. This pushing them to appropriately respond to globalization challenges. According to "Ilyin", the sovereignty erosion is a dangerous deviation from the modern standard of statehood, under which state's ability is to direct globalization flows, and be in the world development trend (Alexander A. Zyikov, Sergei V. Sevastianov, 2015, p.p 126.127).

As a summary, certain events and phenomenons contributed in giving ideal borders their current form, regardless of whether they are positive or negative, such as globalization and its role in the of border openness and border processes, where it did collide with terrorism and insecurity resulting from a wrong reading of the future of global openness. This leads to say that it is necessary now to review and re-think the regionalization of borders or de-territorialization in light of the new local, international and global changes, and to move towards the renewal of borders or what so called re-territorialization.

# **C- Cross-bordering Regional Strategies:**

This part will discuss two main concepts, which are: regional cooperation and regional integration as governmental strategies supporting the process of cross-border cooperation.

#### 1- Regional Cooperation:

The border studies multidisciplinary field is sharing some ideas about studied borders. One idea presented by "David Newman"-political geographer, argues that borders determine the nature of group-in some cases defined territorially-, affiliation and membership, and the manner in which the inclusion and exclusion processes are institutionalized. Another idea for Geographers such as "Victor Konrad and Heather N. Nicol", suggesting that culture and power are main variables to explain how borders and borderlands are created and sustained (Tuulikki Kurki, 2014, p 1056).

According to this, in the aim of achieving various targeted goals in terms of developmental objectives to be gained at borders and borders territories, some initiatives and actions are required both at local and regional level, starting by the presence of political will which is the main step in cross-border development process, providing legislative platform that sets up a legal framework and guaranties for cross-borderlanders, whether are individuals or organizations that can enriching different exchanges all societal domains in a cooperative mode expressing a sense of sharing interests and benefits. So, it is confirmed that "the development of borders and borderlands needs to take different political and policy interests into consideration at least as major factors influencing the developments along and across borders" (Sarolta Németh, Ágnes Németh and Virpi Kaisto, 2019, P4).

Regional cooperation provides great benefits in the presence of cross-border road/rail links, while traditional economic platform have inefficient trade modes, which are consuming time and expensive. Such lack of cooperation between countries not only increasing costs, but rather, it gives encourages informal trade due to porous borders between states (P.V. Srinivasan, 2012, p 9). In the same context, in order to open space for free trading as example, "customs unions are still less common than other, lighter forms of regional integration such as free trade agreements. Yet customs unions face many of the same challenges, while pushing customs and border cooperation much further, yielding some of the most advanced and sophisticated forms of regional border cooperation and border policy management (Erich Kieck, Jean Christophe. Maur, 2011, p 231).

#### 2- Regional Integration:

The complexity of management of larger movements of people and goods across borders, and the number of regulatory role players involved, is compelling customs union policymakers to adopt a coordinated border management approach, considering all mutual customs relating issues and action between states. Really, there is a need for a comprehensive approach, including Border Management Modernization, Regional Integration and Customs Unions, involving Strategy, Policy, Process, People and Technology (Erich Kieck, Jean Christophe. Maur, 2011, p 246).

Marcuse" confirms that integration eliminating barriers to free mobility and the creation of positive, non-hierarchical relationships, supporting social dimension in context of socio-spatial integration. as physical dimension requires proximity between social groups, space design, spatial distance, social distance and agglomeration... while functional dimension refers to opportunities access and spatial distance to opportunities, quality of opportunities, economy and services access, level of state participation and the presence of public and private institutions. The relational dimension refers to the interaction between different social groups, non-hierarchical relations, social control, leadership, community institutions, cultural exchanges, social capital, social networks, political participation...Finally; the symbolic dimension is related to identification with a shared ground, real and imaginary boundaries, partial and common identity and separation between original members and outsiders (Tamás Hardi, Andrea Uszkai, 2017, p12).

It is proved that there is a necessity to take a way through integration in all figures, including social integration, which is expressing the preservation of shared historic, language and identity between neighbouring borders communities. While economic integration leads to develop economic exchanges that provides well incomes for individuals and states. In addition, political and security field as a top exclusive management, which can be a subject of integration as well, via regional political agreements and military cooperation represented in common border security controls and operations in the context of regional security strategies. These are the essential expected gains from integration as a result of comprehensive and networks approaches.

As example of Africa's integration and regional agreements, the African Union Border Programme (AUBP) as a vital factor aiming to improve and modernize border regimes, delimitation and demarcation. According the AUBP programme in 2011, the initiative meets three imperative needs: First, geopolitical need focusing on peace, security and stability, to avoid conflict, and reinforce State territorial sovereignty that can bring the freedom to open up and integrate. Second, geoeconomic need: well border management and trade encouraging. Third, socio-economic need, supporting local cross-border cooperation initiatives between committed neighbouring communities (African Union Commission, 2014, p.p 6.7).

# II-2- Manifestations & Impacts of Cross-border Cooperation:

The expansion of border research is mainly emerged in two directions, one focusing on the processes of "cross-boundary" cooperation and borderlands socio-spatial issues, and other on the securitization of border crossings and the demarcation processes renewal (Anne. Laure, Amilhat. Szary, 2015, p 15).

#### A- At Socio-Cultural & Economic Level:

Cross-border or regional infrastructure is defined as infrastructure connecting two or more countries by means such as rail/road, electricity transmission, or high-speed communication links, in context of intergovermonemtals cooperation and coordination. Including national big cross-border infrastructure projects, such as air and seaports and land transit centers, facilitating the movement of people and goods, sharing benefits over external trading partners.

Despite general benefic impacts of cross-border, there is a direct impact on poor categories, while regional infrastructure development increasing opportunities for income-generating economic activities for local people, and the cross-border livelihood interaction at the local level is the result touching these poor categories. As direct beneficial links to poverty, creation of employment in different construction infrastructural projects, so, through infrastructural services, poor households can gain better access to markets, to electricity and telecommunications at lower costs (P.V. Srinivasan, 2012, p 15).

Within cross-border interaction, emerging of such spread communicable diseases and drugs, people trafficking can negatively affect local and national communities that is why appropriate interventions are needed to reducing as possible negative impacts (P.V. Srinivasan, 2012, p16).

State "A"

Cross-border region
spatial structure
border area "A"

economic
structure
dynamics

State "B"

Cross-border region
spatial structure
cultural and
linguistic barriers
dynamics

National
systems
(taxation, healthcare, education etc.)
Level of economic
development

ACCESSIBILITY

Magnitude of
movements

Differences

Differences

Figure 1: A model of the development of cross-border movements

Source: Tamás Hardi, Andrea Uszkai, 2017, p15.

Figure (01) shows cross-border movements and migrations between two states A and B, which are a result of differences in socio-economic development levels and the national systems such as taxation, healthcare, education systems, based on spatial proximity of the neighbouring system. As this is the case even for movements between border regions. As it is possible to modify the coming attraction from the differences between the states considerably by the economic features, structure and border areas development dynamics.

# **B- At Political, Human & Security Level:**

"We can recognize global megatrends that are changing the nature of borders while, at the same time, there are obviously different regional responses and counter tendencies in these trends that we need to pay attention to" (Jussi Laine, 2015, p 117). For example, in some situations, borders management policies clash with local initiatives of economic, social and environmental crossborder interaction, where these latters have the ability to lead into regional stability and security (Large-Scale Integrating Project, 2011, p77).

All individuals at international borders, including border officials are part of International human rights protections. In the context of counter-terrorism, states have to ensure the safety and security of the general public at border points. These measures should be taken into consideration while the planning of counter-terrorism operations in order to stop terrorism mouvements acrossing-border or at least their plans, which can affect border population, and even foreings regardless of origins. This is in the aim of security insurance at all levels (United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, UN Counter Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), p20).

"Both regional trade agreements and increased cooperation among regions are used to develop common responses to emerging challenges. Some new economic and noneconomic challenges include preventing terrorism, protecting the environment, promoting labor standards, and ensuring economic security. Border management has an important role here" (Erich Kieck, Jean-Christophe Maur, 2011, p 235).

In same context, we argue that border functions in modern world are becoming multifunctional and multi-goals and inclusive, in light of a comprehensive approach that we already discussed above as a modern perspective. This essential trend, in which we adopt its main principles that begin with borderlands human as a subject and goal for border sustainable development in the same time. The idea here, is to exploite and invest in human resources at socio-cultural, economic and environmental level, by promoting its right to have a good livelihood, access to health care and education, to work and ensuring well income by supporting productive projects and tourism at border territories, giving access to participative democracy, where citizens get opportunities to participate in local decisions relating to their daily life issues and affairs. Furthermore, providing nearby rural roads access for markets, improving regional markets with neighbouring countries and industries, and trying to connect interior provinces with borders and eliminating regional imbalance which leads to low income for people. In other words, ensuring social, economic and environmental security gathered in the term: societal security for border humans. Like this, states can achieve security of borders in all aspects, especially securitizing local and regional border sides against terrorism and smuggling networks which across nation-states borders as one of merged dangerous phenomenon in the globalization era.

In addition to that, modern migration movements can be an important file for human rights, where in the context of human right preservation, turn from rigid to soft border and border de-politicization\* and modernization, illegal migrants acrossing the border, should not be considered and treated as a danger for national security, they came from bad situations pushing them to leave their countries of origin looking for work, food and security, such as wars, organized internal crime and ecological migration-that comes from the deprivation of decent living due to drought and harsh natural environmental factors-, and even they could provide an immense human power participating in the development of border regions and territories. We just need here to more explain one thing, that is border de-politicization does not mean completely excluding the political and military character, but rather, keeping controls on border as a necessary security irreplaceable mean in the context of border re-politicization and migration management, according to the new different global variables and interests.

#### **Conclusion:**

Cross-border cooperation in the heart of border studies field, as an essential strategy and in order to achieving a modern borders development in all aspects, it becomes a necessity for states in the aim of preserving national and regional stability and security. The modern is perspective is relying cooperation and its intertwined linkages with further dimensions such as, a socio-cultural, economic, environmental, Security and human ones. It is a collection, which brings out common goals at bath local and regional border level.

Particularly, in Globalization era which strongly affects borders shaping and functions, starting from the wrong understanding of world borderless as a global concept calling for what is so called: de-territorialization, and now due to the spread of contemporary factors and reasons, reviewing or re-thinking these management functions among cross-border -as a multidisciplinary, multifunctional and multi-goals- is becoming an urgent need for states and regional blocs to discuss, in the aim of creating an attractive environment embracing all cooperation and integration initiatives that could be happen within, especially when some transnational phenomenons are much increasing and still, such as terrorism, illegal migration and trafficking of people, drugs and weapons, which should be treated and taken as a part of basic consideration while the creation of border local and regional security and developments strategies

<sup>\*</sup> De-politicization means to do not relate and link legal/illegal migration movements to political and military issues and strategies, which suffer from negative affairs such as terrorism, and its opposite is re-politicization.

Finally, among urgent recommandations sorted and approved by this study, below notes:

- Reconfiguring borders functions-so called re-bordering and re-ordering borders, as well as border humans and civil society roles.
- Coordination and cooperation between formal and informal actors at borders level.
- A call for Soft Borders, de-bordering and border de-politicization, by launching space and freedom to legal cross-border economic business, activities and movments, relieving control and preserving border and cross-border human dignity.
- A call for, regional border space reconfiguring, or so-called reterritorialization.
- Going through Humanitarization of borders, by responding to local needs and aspirations in combination with security, in the context of border comprehensive approach.

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