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Between Governance and Sovereignty: On the Borders of Politics

Just as the management science of logistics has its application to the transport of material goods, so it also plays a role in planning, implementing and controlling contemporary movements of brains and bodies. With attention to recent developments in the borderscape connecting Asia to Australia, the paper investigates how the logistics of the border convert ungovernable transnational flows into mobile governable bodies. Particular emphasis is placed on the contribution of techniques of temporal delay to this process. Approaching the border as a heterogeneous assemblage of social relationships, the paper argues that the logistics of the border can be fully explained neither by notions of sovereign power nor by theories of governance.