

The European Union and migration issues: some geographical perspectives

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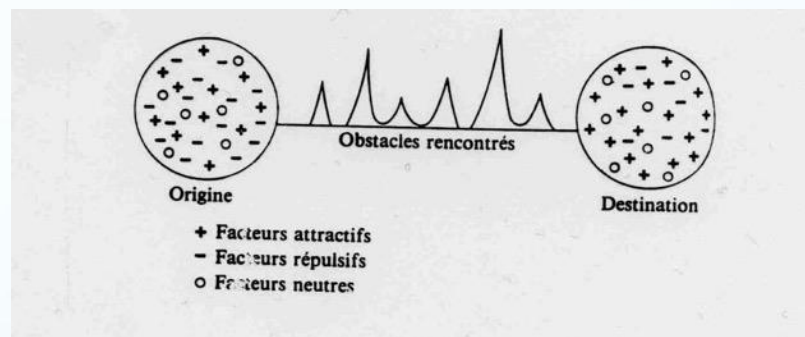
Introduction

- The migrant crisis in Europe in 2015

=> Migration is still on the political agenda in Europe

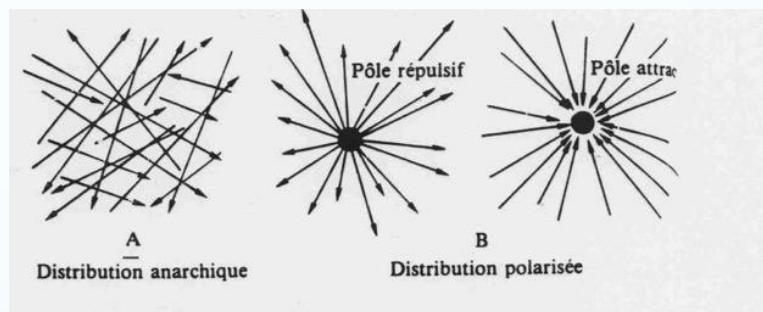
The migration system

- A movement that introduces a significant change in your living space (Thumerelle, 1986)
 - A place of departure...
 - ...and a place of arrivals
- In-between
 - Distances
 - Obstacles



The migration system

- A complex system with poles of attraction and poles of repulsion
- Different types of migrations
 - The international migrations: crossing borders
- A non-linear individual trajectory

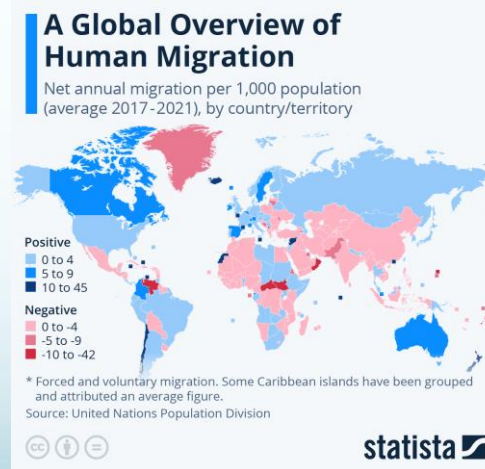
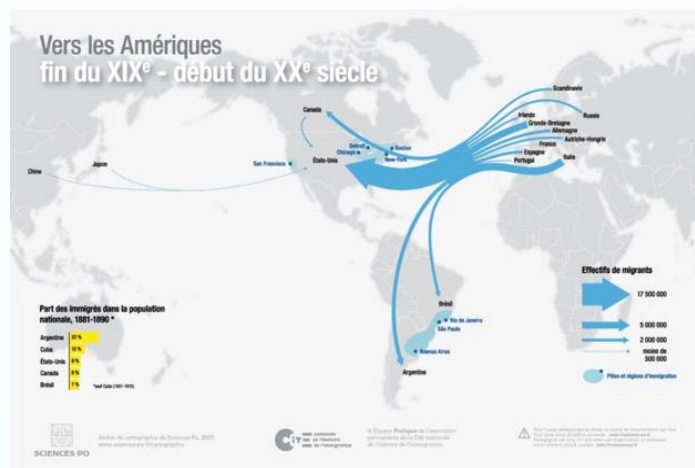


The migration system

- The will to improve one's situation
 - Wealth differences
 - Wars, conflicts, tensions

The migration system

- Europe: a part of a world migration system
- Europe: Migration flows in a long-term perspective (XIX-XXI c.)
 - From an area of emmigration to an immigration area



The migration system

- Europe: Migration flows in a long-term perspective
 - Contrasting situations according to countries

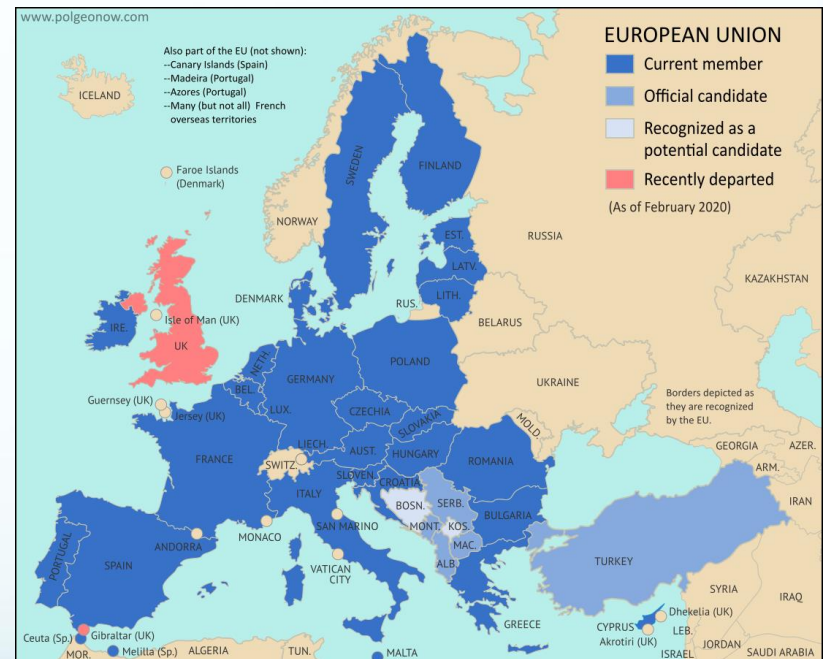


The border regimes

- What is a border?
 - A limit of sovereignty
 - A device of regulation
 - An object, revealing differences between political, legal, cultural systems, etc.
- « A territorial construction that introduces distance in proximity » (Arbaret-Schultz, 2004)

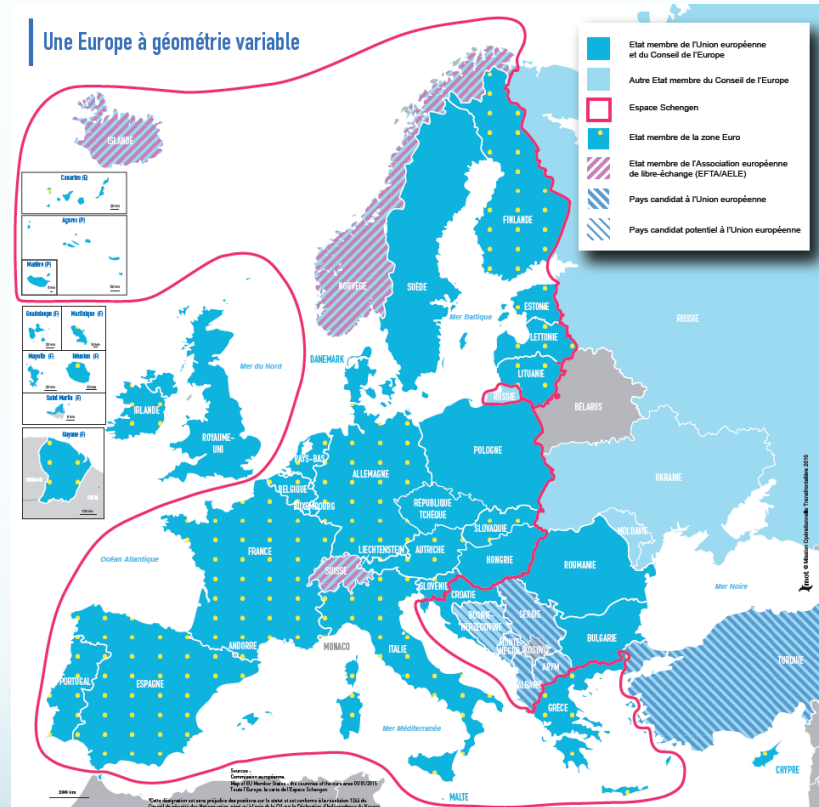
The border regimes

- The « Europe »'s border regime
 - Two areas of free movement
 - for goods (EU, 1993)
 - for humans (European citizens) (Schengen area, 1995)



The border regimes

- The border regimes in Europe
 - Internal borders
 - External borders
 - the transfer of regulatory functions at external borders



Borders and migrations in Europe

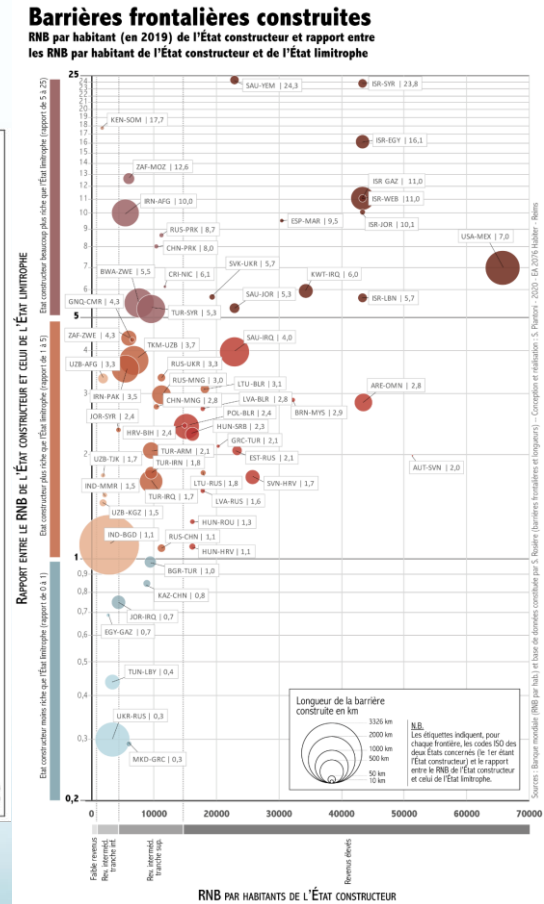
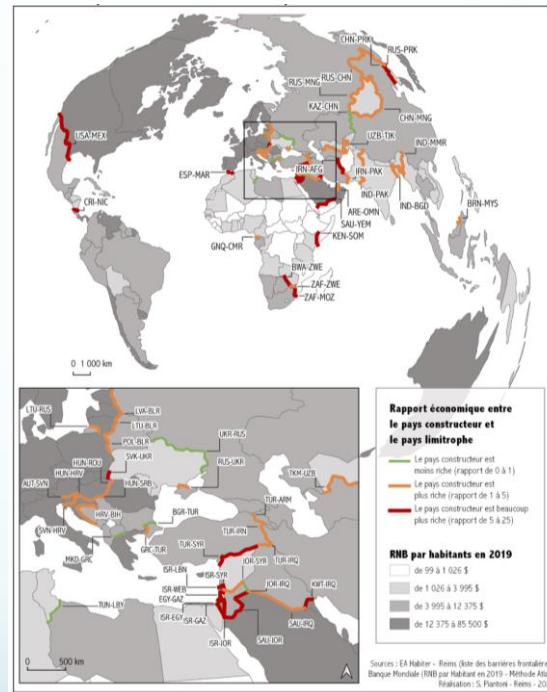
- The European Union's migration policy
 - A shared competence
 - Communitarisation
 - The power of the States and the control of borders

Borders and migrations in Europe

- Desired and unwanted migrants
 - Main objectives
 - ‘a balanced approach’
 - Reducing flows
 - Tensions and difficult agreements

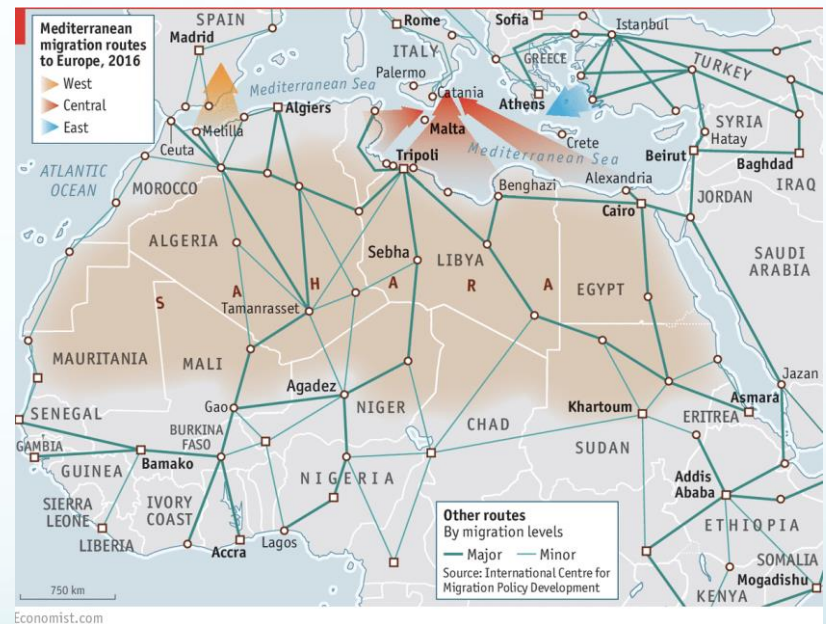
Borders and migrations in Europe

- Differences in living standards:
 - powerful drivers of movement...
 - ...and Wall construction (Rosière, 2021)



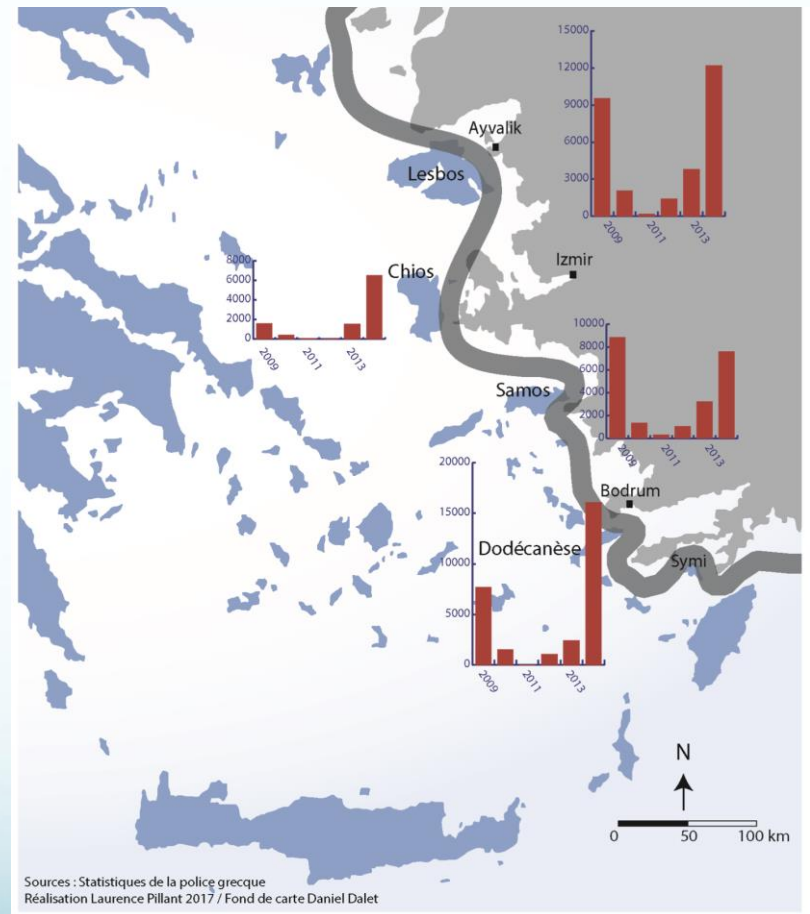
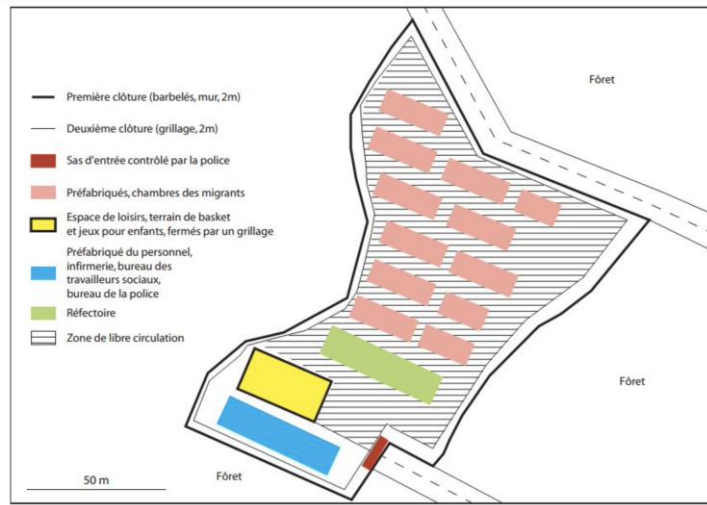
Borders and migrations in Europe

- A geography of migration and borders
 - Migration routes and networks



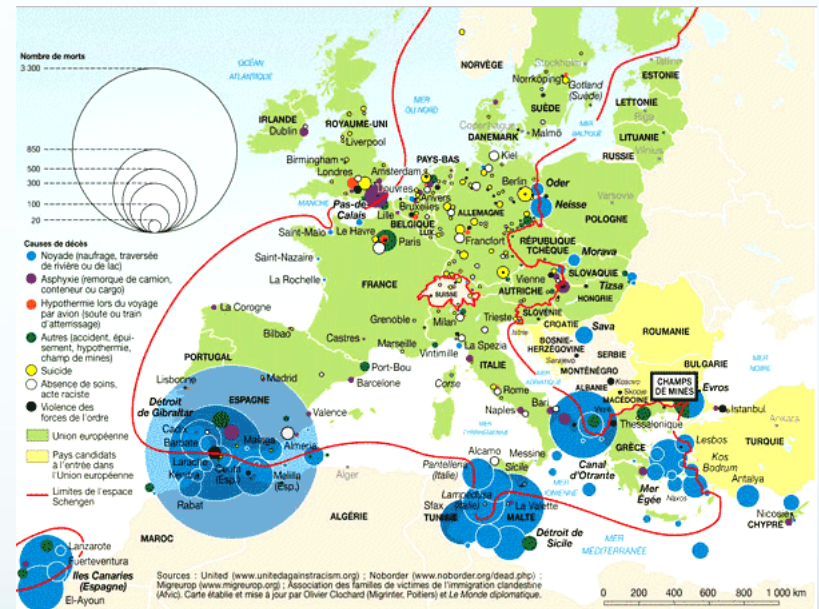
Borders and migrations in Europe

- A geography of migration and borders
 - Places: hotspots, camps (Pillant, 2018)



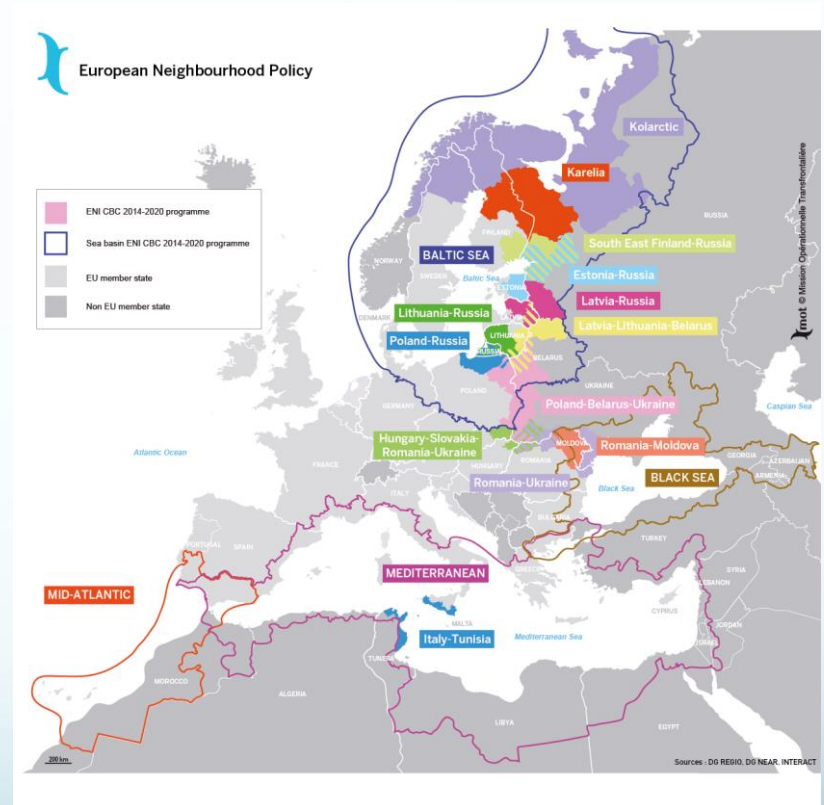
Borders and migrations in Europe

- A territorial approach
 - Fortress Europe



Borders and migrations in Europe

- A territorial approach
 - Asymmetric positions
 - Countries that are gateways: Italy, Spain, Greece, etc.)
 - Countries that play a filtering role: Turkey, Morocco, etc.
- A legal approach ?



Borders and migrations in Europe

- The smart border
 - Frontex
- an ideological and technical approach?
 - The border: a mean of protection

Borders and migrations in Europe

- Public opinion, the media and politicians
 - Instrumentalisation?

Conclusion

- Selective borders
- A source of tensions and manipulation between countries in Europe and in neighbouring countries
- to allow the movement of migrants: to go back and forth (Wihtol de Wenden, 2016)
- Cosmopolitan societies (Beck, 2005)

Thank you for your attention!