

## The Effects of European Union's Bordering Process

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**Abstract :** Border and bordering studies have come to the forefront in recent years especially with parallel to increase in international migratory movements. Although conceptualizations of the border and bordering are quite contested within academia, the general point of view is that borders are politically and socially constructed. It means that borders have always their own 'us vs. them', and bordering process produce separate identities as well. In that case, Turkey and Greece are notable examples since these two nation-states constructed their borders upon each other's for years although the Turkish-Greek border was drawn with the Lausanne Treaty of 1923. Nevertheless, on the other hand, The European Union (EU) has been externalized of border management policies to build a stronger area of freedom, security, and justice within the borders. Thus, Turkish-Greek border has become one of the significant external borders of the EU. In this context, this study aims to understand whether the EU's bordering process through externalizing border management policies can affect Turkey's and Greece's bordering processes. By examining official documents of the EU and conducting in-depth interviews with local actors of the border management policies of the EU in Edirne, where is the border city of Turkey with Greece, this study's main finding is that the EU's bordering process to control migration at the external borders affects Turkey's and Greece's bordering processes. It seems that Turkey and Greece construct their borders upon a common Other, 'irregular migrants' now.

**Keywords :** border, bordering, the European Union, externalization

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