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## On the Borders of World-Systems: Contact Zones in Ancient and Modern Times

YERVAND MARGARYAN (EDITOR)

This work examines the historical, archaeological, and political interpretations of world-systems theory and geocivilizational analysis. The macrosociological issues of ancient and modern history are presented through five case-studies, concentrating on the Taurus-Caucasus region, which functioned as a contact zone throughout the different periods.

*On the Borders of World-Systems: Contact Zones in Ancient and Modern Times* was initiated by a multidisciplinary group of authors and examines the historical, archaeological, and political interpretations of world-systems theory and geocivilizational analysis.

The main goal of this monograph is to find the solution to a major problem: the study of worldwide practice, oriented towards the problems of the modern social world as a system. The main focus is the borderland—'limes'—which resembles an impenetrable cordon, and an open, interactive environment. In this sphere of inter-world encounters, different civilizations developed, exchanges of goods and ideas took place.

The macrosociological issues of ancient and modern history are presented through five articles, or case-studies, concentrating on the Taurus-Caucasus region, which functioned as a contact zone throughout the different periods.

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Publisher: Archaeopress Publishing Ltd  
Imprint: Archaeopress Archaeology

Publication date: Mar 2020

Format: Paperback

Price: £30.00

ISBN: 9781789693416

Language: English

Extent: 180 pp

Dimensions: 250 x 176 mm

Pictures: 32 illustrations in colour and black & white

Subject: Military / Fortifications / Conflict

Geographical area: Levant / Near East

### ALTERNATIVE EDITION:

Format: PDF

ISBN: 9781789693423

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