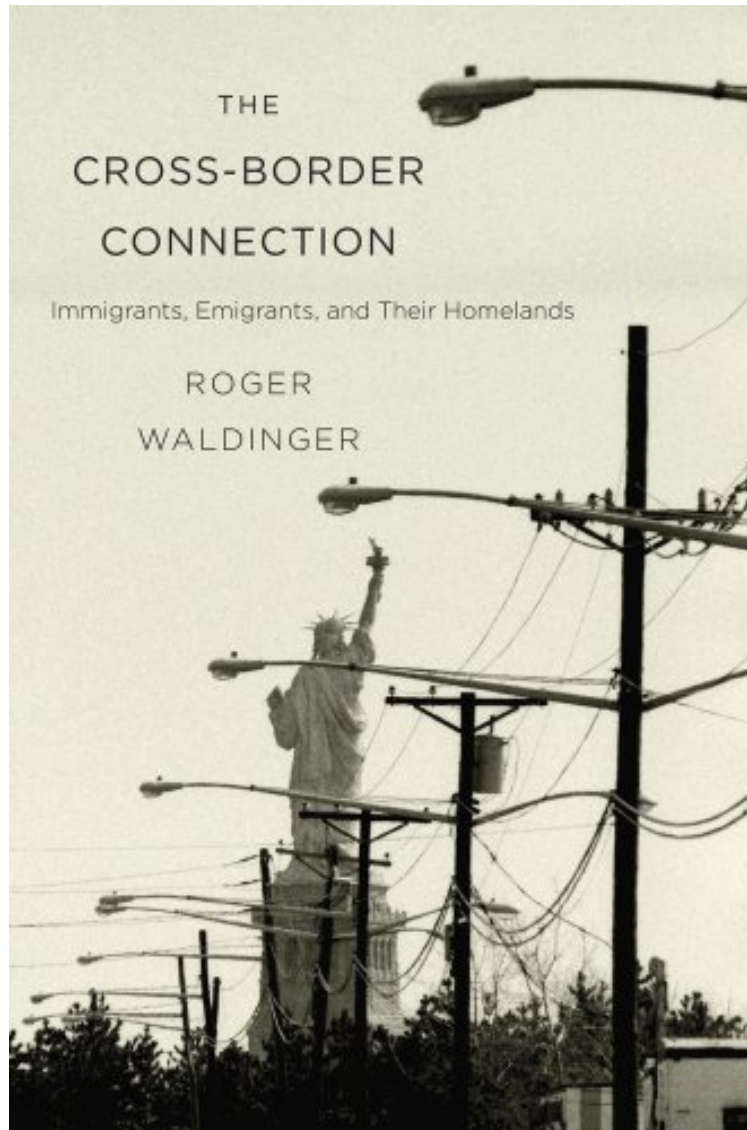


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# The Cross-Border Connection: Immigrants, Emigrants, and Their Homelands

*Roger Waldinger*

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**Roger Waldinger : The Cross-Border Connection: Immigrants, Emigrants, and Their Homelands** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cross-Border Connection: Immigrants, Emigrants, and Their Homelands:

International migration presents the human face of globalization, with consequences that make headlines throughout the world. The Cross-Border Connection addresses a paradox at the core of this phenomenon: emigrants departing one society become immigrants in another, tying those two societies together in a variety of ways. In nontechnical language, Roger Waldinger explains how interconnections between place of origin and destination are built and maintained and why they eventually fall apart. Newcomers moving away from the developing world find that migration is a good thing, letting them enjoy the benefits of residence in the developed world, some of which they send on to their relatives at home in the form of remittances. Residing in a democratic state, free from the long arm of their place of origin, emigrants mobilize to produce change in the homelands they left. Emigration states, in turn, extend their influence across boundaries to protect nationals and retain their loyalty abroad. Time, however, proves corrosive, and in the end most immigrants and their descendants become progressively disconnected from their home country, reorienting their concerns and commitments to the place where they actually live. Although widely studied, cross-border connections remain misunderstood, both by scholars convinced that globalization is leading to a deterritorialized world of unbounded loyalties and flows, and by policy makers trying to turn migration into an engine of development. Not since Oscar Handlin's classic *The Uprooted* has there been such a precisely argued, nuanced study of the immigrant experience.

When are immigrants us? When are they them? Waldinger implores readers to reframe the debate from a before-after dichotomy to a new transnational approach, revealing migrants to be here, there, and in-between at all stages of their migration tenure. The book's real strength is in the elegance of the author's argument, supported by evidence that transnationalism itself is not static but an ongoing dialectic. (R. A. Harper Choice 2015-10-01) With this beautifully written and prodigiously researched book, Roger Waldinger invites us to reconsider what it means to be an immigrant. Insightfully informed by commonalities with the past and by new developments of the last few decades, Waldinger shows that cross-border connections have always been with us, but that they are developing in exciting new ways. (John D. Skrentny, University of California, San Diego) This book makes a valuable theoretical and methodological contribution to the underdeveloped migration scholarship on the social, political, and economic connections between the poor places of origin of immigrants and the rich countries of their destination. (Jacqueline M. Hagan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) About the Author Roger Waldinger is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles.