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978-0-521-51463-7 - Imperial Boundaries: Cossack Communities and Empire-Building in the Age of Peter the Great

Brian J. Boeck

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IMPERIAL BOUNDARIES

Imperial Boundaries is a study of imperial expansion and local transformation on Russia's Don Steppe frontier during the age of Peter the Great. Brian J. Boeck connects the rivalry of the Russian and Ottoman empires in the northern Black Sea basin to the social history of the Don Cossacks, who were transformed from an open, democratic, multi-ethnic, male fraternity dedicated to frontier raiding into a closed, ethnic community devoted to defending and advancing the boundaries of the Russian state. He shows how by promoting border patrol, migration control, bureaucratic regulation of cross-border contacts, and deportation of dissidents, Peter I destroyed the world of the old steppe and created a new imperial Cossack order in its place. In examining this transformation, *Imperial Boundaries* addresses key historical issues of imperial expansion, the de-legitimization of non-state violence, the construction of borders, and the encroaching boundaries of state authority in the lives of local communities.

BRIAN J. BOECK is Assistant Professor in the History Department at DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois.

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in the Age of Peter the Great*

BRIAN J. BOECK

DePaul University



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Frontmatter

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Brian J. Boeck

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Contents*

<i>List of maps and illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	viii
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	x
Introduction	I
1 Beyond borders, between worlds: Russian Empire and the making of the Don steppe frontier	13
2 People and power on the frontier: liberty, diversity, and de-centralization in the Don region to 1700	27
3 A middle ground between autonomy and dependence: the raiding economy of the Don steppe frontier to 1700	40
4 Boundaries of integration or exclusion? Migration, mobility, and state sovereignty on the southern frontier to 1700	54
5 Testing the boundaries of imperial alliance: cooperation, negotiation and resistance in the era of Razin (1667–1681)	68
6 Between Rus' and Rossiia: realigning the boundaries of Cossack communities in a time of migration and transition (1681–1695)	86
7 The era of <i>raskol</i> : religion and rebellion (1681–1695)	103
8 Incorporation without integration: the Azov interlude (1695–1711)	117
9 From frontier to borderland: the demarcation of the steppe and the delegitimization of raiding (1696–1710)	134

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-51463-7 - Imperial Boundaries: Cossack Communities and Empire-Building in the Age of Peter the Great

Brian J. Boeck

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
10	Boundaries of land, liberty, and identity: making the Don region legible to imperial officials (1696–1706)	159
11	The Bulavin uprising: the last stand of the old steppe (1706–1709)	172
12	Reshaping the Don in the imperial image: power, privilege, and patronage in the post-Bulavin era (1708–1739)	187
13	Closing the Cossack community: recording and policing the boundaries of group identity (1708–1739)	208
14	A borderline state of mind: the closing of the Don steppe frontier (1708–1739)	231
	<i>Afterword</i>	245
	<i>Index</i>	252

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-51463-7 - Imperial Boundaries: Cossack Communities and Empire-Building in the Age of Peter the Great

Brian J. Boeck

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Maps and illustrations*

MAPS

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------|
| 1. | The Don region | <i>page</i> xii |
| 2. | The wider world of the Don steppe frontier | xiii |

ILLUSTRATIONS

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | Seal of the Don Host introduced in 1704. Source: <i>Chteniia imperatorskogo obshchestva istorii i drevnostei</i> (1846), book 4, p. III. | 88 |
| 2. | Eighteenth-century representation of a Cossack (after a copper engraving by Caspar Luiken). Source: an eighteenth-century German print in the author's personal collection. | 89 |

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-51463-7 - Imperial Boundaries: Cossack Communities and Empire-Building in the Age of Peter the Great

Brian J. Boeck

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-51463-7 - Imperial Boundaries: Cossack Communities and Empire-Building in the Age of Peter the Great

Brian J. Boeck

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Acknowledgments*

ix

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Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-51463-7 - Imperial Boundaries: Cossack Communities and Empire-Building in the Age of Peter the Great

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Abbreviations*

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DAI	Arkheograficheskaia komissiiia, <i>Dopolneniia k aktam istoricheskim</i> (Saint Petersburg, 1846–72)
KVSR	E. A. Shvetsova, ed., <i>Krest'ianskaia voina pod predvoditel'stvom Stepana Razina. Sbornik dokumentov</i> (Moscow, 1976)
PIB	<i>Pis'ma i bumagi imperatora Petra Velikago</i> (Saint Petersburg, 1887–)
PSZ	<i>Polnoe sobranie zakonov Rossiiskoi Imperii</i> (Saint Petersburg, 1855–1916)
RIB	Arkheograficheskaia komissiiia, <i>Russkaia istoricheskaia biblioteka</i> (Saint Petersburg, 1872–1927) Donskie dela: 18, 24, 26, 29, 34

ARCHIVES

GARO	Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Rostovskoi oblasti
GAVO	Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Voronezhskoi oblasti
RGADA	Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv drevnikh aktov
RGAVMF	Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv voenno-morskogo flota
RGVIA	Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi voenno-istoricheskii arkhiv
SPFIRI	Sankt-Peterburgskii filial Instituta rossiiskoi istorii RAN

GLOSSARY

<i>ataman</i>	The elected leader of a Cossack raiding party, settlement, or Host.
<i>burlak</i>	A transient person, migrant worker, or non-Cossack.
<i>gorodok</i>	A fortified settlement.
<i>krug</i>	A Cossack assembly.

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978-0-521-51463-7 - Imperial Boundaries: Cossack Communities and Empire-Building in the Age of Peter the Great

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Abbreviations

xi

<i>liubo</i>	A shout of approval, literally “it is pleasing.”
<i>Rus’</i>	Core territories of the Muscovite state administered under the law code of 1649.
<i>Rossiia</i>	The entire Russian Empire, comprising both Rus’ and other territories administered under distinct juridical frameworks.
<i>stanitsa</i>	(1) A community (2) the politically enfranchised population of a Cossack settlement (3) A Cossack delegation.
<i>starshina</i>	A term for Cossack elected officials. After 1730, Cossack elites recognized by the imperial government.

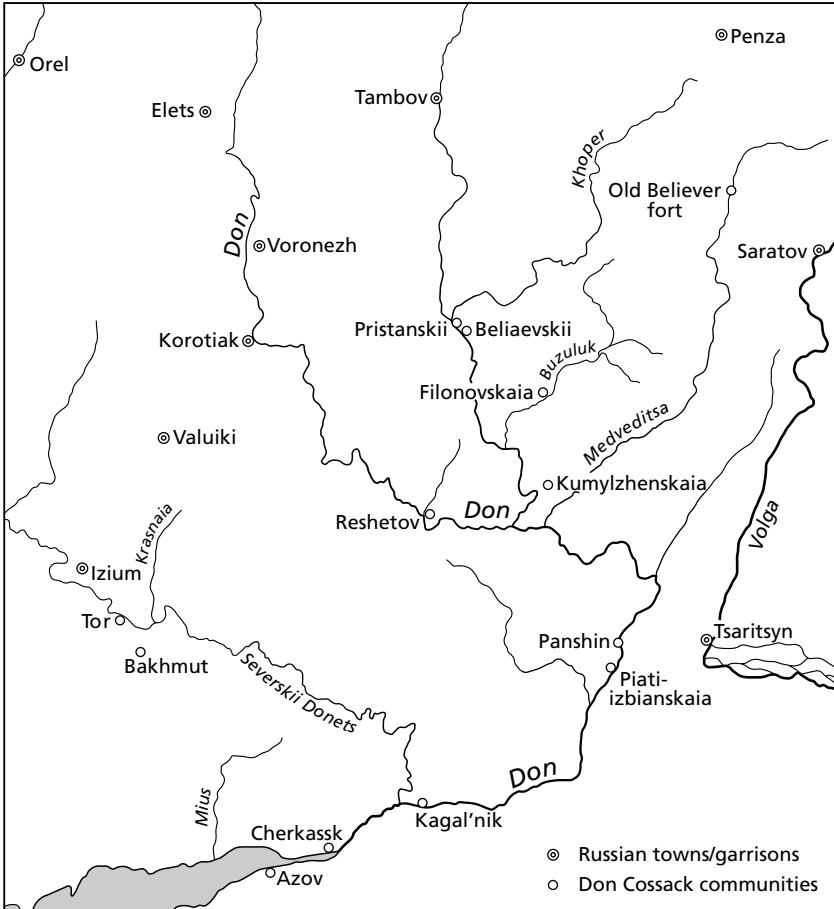
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Frontmatter

[More information](#)



i. The Don region

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Brian J. Boeck

Frontmatter

[More information](#)



2. The wider world of the Don steppe frontier