

## Working Groups at the BCDSS

### [The Working Group “Ottoman Slavery”](#)

**The Working Group “Ottoman Slavery”** provides scholars with the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas on the topic of slavery and other forms of asymmetrical dependencies in the Ottoman Empire. Members of the working group carry out research on slavery and asymmetrical dependencies in various periods and regions of the Ottoman Empire using multiple sources such as archival materials, travelogues, correspondences, and manuscripts. The members’ research areas range from non-elite household slaves to elite female slaves, child slaves as well as slave agency and mobility in the Black Sea region, Istanbul and other cities in the Ottoman Empire during the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries. The participants aim at tying in their research on Ottoman Empire with recent scholarship and theoretical debates on slavery and asymmetrical dependencies.

The working group also acts as a platform where scholars can network and exchange knowledge. During regular meetings, participants talk about their ongoing projects, exchange questions, share source materials and focus on current discussions and debates. Future research papers to be written by members of the working group should contribute to the current academic discourse. Joint activities and collaborations regarding workshops, research and book projects are envisaged as long-term goals.

#### **Current members with their specific research focus:**

- [Veruschka Wagner](#) (Istanbul household slaves 17th c., social and spatial mobility of slaves) BCDSS, University of Bonn, Germany ([veruschka.wagner@gmx.de](mailto:veruschka.wagner@gmx.de))
- [Firat Yaşa](#) (Crimean slavery and dependencies, Slavery in Istanbul and Bursa 17th c.) – University of Duzce, Turkey ([yasafirat@gmail.com](mailto:yasafirat@gmail.com))
- [Zeynep Gökçe](#) (Visibility and representations of female slavery in Istanbul 19th c., gender and slavery in Ottoman Empire) – BCDSS, University of Bonn, Germany ([zeynepgokce@gmail.com](mailto:zeynepgokce@gmail.com))
- [Turkana Allahverdi](#) (Crimean Slavery early 18th c.) – BCDSS, University of Bonn, Germany ([turkana.allahverdi@gmail.com](mailto:turkana.allahverdi@gmail.com))
- Nida Nebahat Nalçacı (State slavery in Istanbul, diplomatic encounters between Ottomans and Venetians in case of captivity, mainly 16th and 17th c.) – University of Bilkent, Turkey ([nebahat.nalcaci@bilkent.edu.tr](mailto:nebahat.nalcaci@bilkent.edu.tr))
- [Bahar Bayraktaroğlu](#) (Child slavery in Istanbul 19th c., Circassian and African enslaved children in the elite households of Istanbul) – University of Sabanci, Turkey ([bbahar@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:bbahar@sabanciuniv.edu))

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