

# NORMS, INSTITUTIONS, AND PRACTICES OF DEPENDENCY

CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 21 – 22, 2022

hosts the Cluster of Excellence "Beyond Slavery and Freedom", which aims to overcome the binary opposition of "slavery versus freedom". Researchers associated with the center approach the phenomenon of slavery and other types of strong asymmetrical dependency from methodologically and theoretically distinct perspectives.

The academic year 2021/22 at the BCDSS is dedicated to Research Area C's focus on "Norms, Institutions and Practices of Dependency". The end of this period will be marked by an international conference which aims at evaluating the role of institutional regulations and normative concepts in forming and perpetuating relations of asymmetrical dependencies. To this end, a variety of legal texts, sacred codes, and case studies will be examined for normative conceptions of asymmetrical dependencies and for resulting practices of enforcing, subverting, or interpreting them. The conference will consist of an opening lecture on the theory of asymmetrical dependency and altogether three panels which focus on dependencies in the ecclesiastical realm, legal constructions of dependency, and dependencies in the context of colonialism.

**University of Bonn**  
Bonner Universitätsforum  
Heussallee 18-24  
D-53113 Bonn

## CONTACT

### Conference Organizers:

Josef Köstlbauer BCDSS, University of Bonn  
Martin Schermaier BCDSS, University of Bonn  
Julia Winnebeck BCDSS, University of Bonn

### Jan Hörber, Event Coordinator

[events@dependency.uni-bonn.de](mailto:events@dependency.uni-bonn.de)  
+49 228 73 62945

Please **register** for the conference  
**by September 9, 2022** via [email](#).  
Please visit our [conference website](#) for more information.

### Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS) University of Bonn

Niebuhrstraße 5  
D-53113 Bonn  
[dependency@uni-bonn.de](mailto:dependency@uni-bonn.de)  
[www.dependency.uni-bonn.de](http://www.dependency.uni-bonn.de)

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Picture credit: Volker Lannert/University of Bonn

## Wednesday, September 21, 2022

11:00 – 11:15 AM – **Welcome**

11:15 – 12:00 PM

Towards a Sociological Theory of Norms and Institutions of Dependency

**Rudolf Stichweh**  
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

12:00 – 1:30 PM – Lunch Break

### Panel I: Church and Dependency

Chair: Julia Winnebeck (BCDSS, University of Bonn)

1:30 – 2:15 PM

Translating Biblical Slavery

**Jennifer Glancy**  
(Le Moyne College, USA)

2:15 – 3:00 PM

Hierarchies, Asymmetries, and Dependencies in the Councils of the Early Church: A Case Study

**Thomas Graumann**  
(Humboldt-University/University of Cambridge)

3:00 – 3:30 PM – Coffee Break

3:30 – 4:15 PM

The Servants of the Servants of God: Service in Monasteries (c. 800 - c. 1100)

**Isabelle Cochelin**  
(University of Toronto)

4:15 – 5:00 PM

Confession, Authority, and Masculinity in the Early Middle Ages

**Rob Meens**  
(Utrecht University)

6:00 PM – Reception with Drinks and Finger Food

## Thursday, September 22, 2022

### Panel II: Legal Constructions of Dependency: How Do People “Belong” to Others?

Chair: Martin Schermaier (BCDSS, University of Bonn)

9:00 – 9:45 AM

Dominium on Slaves: A Juristic Deconstruction

**Martin Schermaier**  
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

9:45 – 10:30 PM

Constructions of Dependency in Medieval Feudal Law

**Andreas Thier**  
(University of Zurich)

10:30 – 11:00 AM – Coffee Break

11:00 – 11:45 AM

On the Establishment of Dependence by Contract. A Case Comparison from Early Modern Frankfurt.

**Thomas Pierson**  
(Giessen University)

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM

The Freedom to Remain Unfree. Discussions about the Legal Status of Serfs and Slaves in the Holy Roman Empire in the 18th Century

**Ludolf Pelizaeus**  
(University of Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens)

12:30 – 2:00 PM – Lunch Break

## Thursday, September 22, 2022

### Panel III: Colonialism, Coercion, and Enslavement

Chair: Jutta Wimmeler (BCDSS, University of Bonn)

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Violence and Jamaican Slavery: Entanglement, Coercion and Dependency

**Trevor Burnard**  
(Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull)

2:45 AM – 3:30 PM

Slave or Servant? The Lives of Children Captured in the Frontiers of the Spanish Empire in the Late Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries

**Tatiana Seijas**  
(Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)

3:30 – 4:00 PM – Coffee Break

4:00 – 4:45 PM

From the "House" to the Court: Litigating for Freedom in Benguela from 1850 to 1878

**Juelma Matos Ngala**  
(BCDSS, University of Bonn/  
Max-Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory)

4:45 – 5:30 PM

Mission and Slavery in the Americas in the 18th Century: The Moravian Experience

**Josef Köstlbauer**  
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

5:30 PM Short Break

5:45 – 6:30 PM **Final Discussion**

Summary and Chair: Julia Hillner (BCDSS, University of Bonn)

Dinner (Speakers & Chairs only)