

# 'CHILDREN AT WORK, IN A PERIOD OF TRANSITION. 400-1000 AD'

HYBRID CONFERENCE  
AUGUST 29, 2023

## THE BONN CENTER FOR DEPENDENCY AND SLAVERY STUDIES

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

In the wonderful tradition of the BCDSS, this will be a truly comparative conference, enabling us to pay attention to voices often unheard, in language traditions often unknown, and therefore underexplored.

For this conference, we draw as much as possible on the expertise of scholars in 'less studied languages' (Armenian, Coptic, Ge'ez, Georgian, Turkish, Syriac) for the period concerned – speakers will be invited to screen their rich sources on the mentions of child labour and child slaves. Also Islamic and Jewish sources will be included. In all, this conference will result in an edited volume with an international publisher – another accomplishment in the BCDSS successful book series.

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

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## VENUE

**University of Bonn  
BCDSS**  
Niebuhrstraße 5  
D-53113 Bonn  
**and online via Zoom**

## CONTACT

**Conference Organizer**  
Christan Laes, BCDSS Fellow

**Jan Hörber, Event Coordinator**  
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Please **register** for the conference  
**by August 15, 2023** via email to:  
[events@dependency.uni-bonn.de](mailto:events@dependency.uni-bonn.de)  
Please visit our [conference website](#) for more information.



Picture credit: Volker Lannert/University of Bonn

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

9:30 AM CEST

**Welcome and registration**

10:00 – 10:30 AM

Enslaved Children in the Late Ancient World:  
New Perspectives and Comparative Research

**Christian Laes**  
(BCDSS Fellow)

10:30 – 11:00 AM

Domestic Slavery and Sexual Exploitation in the Late  
Antique Latin West'

**Erin Thomas Dailey**  
(University of Leicester, UK)

11:00 – 11:30 AM – Coffee Break

11:30 AM– 12:00 PM

Byzantine Children at Work

**Oana Maria Cojocaru**  
(Tampere University, Finland)

12:00 – 12:30 PM

Children at Work in Early Medieval Egypt: Assessing the  
Evidence

**Arietta Papaconstantinou**  
(University of Reading, UK)

12:30 – 1:30 PM Lunch Break

1:30 – 2:00 PM

Children in Asymmetrical Dependency in Early  
Medieval Georgia and its Historiographical  
Representation

**John Latham-Sprinkle**  
(Ghent University, Belgium)

2:00 – 2:30 PM

Children at Work: the Armenian and the Syriac Dossier

**Cornelia Horn**  
(University of Halle, Germany)

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

2:30 – 3:00 PM

Child Slavery in the Ummayyad and Abbasid Period

**Julia Bray**  
(University of Oxford, UK)

3:00 – 3:30 PM – Coffee Break

3:30 – 4:30 PM:

Comparative input from BCDSS members

Children's Dependency in the Mamluk Period

**Bahar Bayraktaroğlu**  
(BCDSS PhD Researcher)

Child Slavery/ Trade in Nomad Traditions,  
High Middle Ages and Early Modern Period

**Christoph Witzernath**  
(BCDSS Professor)

Insight from Buddhistic – Tibetan Traditions

**Lewis Doney**  
(BCDSS Investigator)

4:30 - 5:00 PM - Concluding remarks: Late Antiquity in  
the World Perspective of Slavery Studies.

**Julia Hillner**  
(BCDSS Professor)

7:00 PM Dinner (for Speakers and Organizers only)

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