**Advances in Ancient Black Sea Studies:**

**Methodological Innovation, Interdisciplinary Perspectives and International Cooperation**.

This workshop is designed to promote the two collaborative research projects *Bibliographia classica orae septentrionalis Ponti Euxini* (BCOSPE, Principal Investigator: Victor Cojocaru) and *Ethnic Identities and Diplomatic Affiliations of the Bosporan Kingdom* (Principal Investigator: Altay Coskun). The former focusses, in its current project phase, on *Ars, res sacrae & mythologica*, whereas the latter follows up on Heinz Heinen’s work on the diplomatic friendship relations between Rome and the Bosporos. Both projects have a lot in common: beyond the geographical focus and some overlap among the team members, to a large extent we draw on the same kind of ancient sources: Greek & Latin literature, inscriptions and coins besides artefacts.

We hope to foster exchange of knowledge and methodological skills amongst colleagues of various disciplines related to the ancient world, working in different countries around the northern hemisphere and pursuing research in different areas of the Black Sea region. Several of the presentations will highlight methodological advances in various subfields of Classical Studies, and thus have the potential of stimulating further original work on the Ancient Black Sea. Likewise featured will be research surveys on relevant topics in which different approaches are contrasted and paths for future research opened. Further included will be experiments with new technology or methods from the Social Sciences to elicit some new knowledge from our ancient evidence.