

## **Crossing Lines and Forging Fortunes: Economies of Violence in the Ottoman-Habsburg Borderlands**

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Recent scholarship on the Ottoman-Habsburg borderlands has highlighted the porous and contested nature of the border, and the many ways in which the notional lines between Ottoman and Habsburg territories and identities were crossed. Other studies have attempted to analyze Ottoman warfare and governance in the border region from a *longue durée* economic perspective. The papers on this panel, meanwhile, approach the borderland economy at a personal level, investigating the myriad opportunities for career advancement and financial enrichment as well as the often devastating personal and economic consequences created by border conflicts with Habsburg forces. Drawing on methodological approaches from microhistory, economic, and military history, this panel attempts to deepen the scholarly understanding of the role of the borderlands in early modern Ottoman history. In the first paper of the panel, Rana Münteħa Aldemir traces the lives of several different Ottoman subjects, including ‘Osmān Agha of Temesvár and Ḥasan Esirī, who fell into captivity in the years following the Second Siege of Vienna, combining their striking personal accounts with outside sources to argue that their periods of captivity in non-Ottoman Europe contributed in various ways to the increased economic and social statuses of these men after they gained their freedom. Ahmet Demirel draws upon hitherto underutilized archival documents to show the system of economic incentives in the form of cash, land, and promotions for acts of valor, particularly the capture of heads and tongue, bringing new insights about the paths to prosperity for common soldiers on the Ottoman frontiers. Lawson Pace analyzes autobiographical material in court historiographer Ta‘līkīzāde Meḥmed el-Fenārī’s final two *ṣehnāmes*, drawing connections between the representations of patronage within the texts and the ways in which participation in border campaigns helped to elevate Ta‘līkīzāde above his peers in status. Finally, Samuel Stevens uses Ca’fer İyānī’s *Tevārīḥ-i Cedīd-i Vilāyet-i Üngürüs*, as well as documents relating to the life of the Hungarian border captain Miklós Pálffy, to examine Ottoman perceptions of Habsburg irregular warfare and the economic effects of this raiding on the local Ottoman administration.