



Ludwig Boltzmann Institut
Neulateinische Studien

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and

Sprachwissenschaft Innsbruck
Institut für Sprachen und Literaturen

cordially invite you to a talk by

Alexander Maxwell

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Victoria University Wellington, New Zealand)*

"Linguistic Nationalism and the Politics of Dialects"

Monday, 03.03.2014, 18:00, SR 50113

Innrain 52e, 1.Stock, Verbindungstrakt Geiwi /Bruno-Sander-Haus

Linguists have long been aware that the ubiquitous distinction between “languages” and “dialects” has more to do with political and social forces, typically nationalism, than with objective linguistic distance. Despite this knowledge, linguistic systems of classification remain permeated with political concepts.

This talk examines linguistic classification as a political act. It documents the weaknesses of sociolinguistic analysis, and then provides two case studies examining linguistic classification on the territory of the contemporary Slovak Republic.