



Ludwig Boltzmann Institut
Neulateinische Studien

Wir erlauben uns, herzlich zum

Vortrag

(Neo-)Latin as a meta-language

von

Prof. Dr. Reinhold F. Gleii

(Seminar für Klassische Philologie, Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

am Mittwoch, 2. April 2014 um 18.00 Uhr

*im Zentrum für Alte Kulturen („Atrium“, Langer Weg 11, SR 2)
einzuladen.*

Since the end of the 17th century, when the vernacular languages already prevailed, scholars defended their choice of Latin as a favourite language of translation by arguing that it was the most appropriate one to translate texts written in distant cultural milieus. Latin, as a ‚dead‘ language, was said to be capable (more than any modern language) of rendering the structures and meanings of texts from foreign cultures without sounding strange or ridiculous. So Latin was regarded not only as a useful lingua franca for the scientific community, but also as a meta-language, whose singular qualities are discussed explicitly. To denote this distinctive function of Latin, the term „epi-language“ seems even more suitable. In my paper, three examples taken from different languages are presented and analyzed.