



Ludwig Boltzmann Institut  
Neulateinische Studien

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## **Dr. habil. Péter Kasza**

*(Department for Classical Philology and Neo-Latin Studies,  
University of Szeged, Hungary)*

on

### **The Royal Historiographer of I. Ferdinand Wolfgang Lazius and his Forgotten Work *Rerum Austriacarum Decades***

Wolfgang Lazius (1514–1565) belonged to the best-known scholars of his time. The Viennese humanist had excellent connections to the Habsburg-court, and was not only Ferdinand I's personal physician, but from the mid-1540s onwards he worked as the official historiographer of the ruler. Though he published various work in German and Latin, his main historical work, the *Rerum Austriacarum Decades*, which covers the history of Austrian territories from the Roman times to the author's own age, and can be regarded with reason as one of the greatest achievements of the Austrian humanist historiography, remained in manuscript. Since one time professor of the University of Innsbruck, Michael Mayr published his short monography on Lazius in 1894, no scholar has paid detailed attention to this huge compilation, though at least its V. decas, the last complete ones, dedicated to contemporary history (the age of Ferdinand I), provides important sources to the initial period of the Habsburg Monarchy.

This lecture is going to focus on the following issues: philological problems regarding a prospective critical edition of the V. decas; sketching up a possible stemma of the manuscripts; structure of this part of the work; Lazius' compositional method with Book IX. as an example.

Date and Venue:

Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 6pm  
Zentrum für Alte Kulturen („Atrium“), SR 5  
Langer Weg 11, 6020 Innsbruck