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Translation and the Web of Meaning: Translating the Qur'an into Neo-Latin

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Zentrum für Alte Kulturen („Atrium“)
Langer Weg 11, SR 1

Christian scholars translating the Qur'an in the seventeenth century faced many challenges, among them the inclusion of the Qur'an on the *Index Prohibitorum*, the scarcity of lexical materials in languages other than Arabic, and the vast syntactical and semantic gulf between Arabic and Latin.



This talk will examine the ways that three scholars, Ignazio Lomellini, Dominicus Germanus de Silesia, and Lodovico Marracci, each working in relative isolation, tried to engage with these problems. Their solutions, and the ways that we can understand their work today, given our own historical and linguistic locations, shed light on how we encounter the Qur'an, whether in translation or in the original Arabic, and what meanings we draw from that encounter.