



Nicolaus Heinsius' Notes on Tacitus

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When:

31st January 2024 – 6pm

Where:

Seminarraum 6, Ágnes-Heller-Haus, Innrain 52a, 1st Floor



In seventeenth-century Holland, the Tacitean edition by Justus Lipsius promoted an intense critical and exegetical activity on Tacitus' text. Among the major interpreters of Tacitus in the seventeenth-century Dutch context are Johannes Fredericus Gronovius, Nicolaus Heinsius and Theodor Ryckius. The contribution they provided to Tacitean philology, if related to Lipsius' work, not only registers elements of continuity, but also presents many innovative aspects worthy of attention, especially in the evaluation of manuscript sources.

Until now the most recent contributions on the figure and philological activity of Heinsius have mainly focused on his *ars divinandi* and on the contribution he made to the criticism and exegesis of the Latin poets of the Augustan age (Ovid *in primis*). The fame achieved by Heinsius with his editions of Ovid and Claudian has therefore eclipsed the philological work he did on other authors. After highlighting some aspects of Heinsius' philological method, the talk will focus on Heinsius' commentary on Tacitus, in order to analyse the developments made by Heinsius in relation to the results of previous interpreters of Tacitus.