



Prof. Dr. Helmut Glück

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## **“Multilingualism in the 17th-century Europe”**

At the start of the 17th century, Latin was still Europe's most important lingua franca, but around the turn of the 18th, it had already been replaced in various domains by French. Moreover, other vernaculars were making headway in areas that had previously been dominated by Latin: internal and external administration, economic transactions, the school system and belles lettres. The military (mercenaries) also were multinational and spoke a number of languages. This discourse will take a look at the regulations concerning the “administrative languages” of the Holy Roman Empire and introduce a language manual from the time of the Thirty Years’ War intended for teaching German to French-speaking officers.

### **About the speaker:**

Prof. Dr. Helmut Glück went to school in Blaubeuren and Maulbronn in the German region of Württemberg. He was a student of Slavic, Germanic and Nordic philology and culture in Tübingen and Bochum. Dr. Glück worked as a scientific assistant at the Osnabrück University and obtained his PhD there in 1978. He received his postdoctoral qualification in Hanover in 1984 and then worked as a lecturer at the Ain Shams University in Cairo from 1985 till 1988, later furthering his career as a professor of German philology and German as a foreign language at the Bamberg University in Germany. As a visiting scholar and postgraduate lecturer, he worked around the

globe in Quebec, Montreal, Cairo, Casablanca, Tbilisi, Urbino, Olomouc (where in 2012 he was conferred an honorary degree), Aarhus, Mexico, Aix-en-Provence, Tallinn, Riga and Helsinki. The professor is also a board member of the German Language Foundation in Berlin and the Henning Kaufmann Foundation in Essen, as well as the presiding juror of the German Language Cultural Award based in Kassel. Dr. Glück's professional interests lie in the fields of German grammar, contrastive linguistics, historical and contemporary aspects of German as a foreign language, writing and literacy, language cultivation and language critique, as well as the lexicography of linguistics.

**The latest publications:**

- Die Fremdsprache Deutsch im Zeitalter der Aufklärung, der Klassik und der Romantik. Grundzüge der deutschen Sprachgeschichte in Europa (Fremdsprachen in Geschichte und Gegenwart, Bd. 12). Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz 2013.
- Metzler Lexikon Sprache. Hg. von H. G. Stuttgart, Weimar: Metzler 1993, 5. Aufl. 2016 (with Michael Rödel).