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ZAZH-Buchvernissage mit Vortrag von Neville Morley

The Discontents of Democracy

Dienstag, 21.05.2024

18:15 | SOC-F-106

Rämistrasse 69

8001 Zürich

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Vortrag von Prof. Dr. Neville Morley

«The Discontents of Democracy»

Im Rahmen der Vernissage des Tagungsbandes von Christoph Riedweg, Riccarda Schmid, Andreas Victor Walser (Hg.): «Demokratie und Populismus in der griechischen Antike und heute», Akten der ersten internationalen Tagung des ZAZH – Zentrum Altertumswissenschaft Zürich, UZH, 2020 (Beiträge zur Altertumskunde 415), Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter 2024.

There are multiple grounds for doubting whether ‘populism’ was a significant or even meaningful phenomenon in ancient Greece – exploring the classical world using this concept mainly serves to highlight important differences between ancient and modern politics. At the same time, a number of ancient figures – above all Kleon – repeatedly remind modern readers of the worst aspects of populism, especially in their rhetoric. Perhaps the most important question, especially in thinking about the relevance of the past to the present, is not whether there were really populists in fifth-century Athens, but why Thucydides chooses to depict certain individuals in ways that echo modern populism; representing symptoms not of the decadence of democracy, but of its intrinsic tensions.

Prof. Dr. Neville Morley ist Professor of Classics and Ancient History an der University of Exeter.

Im Anschluss laden wir Sie gerne zum Apéro vor dem Hörsaal ein.

Wann: Dienstag, 21. Mai 2024, 18.15 Uhr

Wo: SOC-F-106, Rämistrasse 69 | 8001 Zürich