



Im Rahmen unserer Vortragsreihe  
*Brennpunkte der Wiener Sprachwissenschaften*  
laden wir ein zu einem Vortrag  
von

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## **“Adnominal locative phrases in Romanian and the syntactic projection of argument structure”**

Romanian adnominal locative prepositional phrases and adverbs must sometimes be preceded by the introductory element *de* ‘of, from’. Previous research has established that *de* is absent if the locative is argumental or if the noun is a complex event nominalization. Assuming that complex event nominals involve a verbal projection embedded under a nominalizer, the emerging generalization is that *de* is obligatory for locative modifiers inside nominal projections. Recent studies pointed out some exceptions to this generalization. I will propose an explanation of these facts, arguing that in some cases the locative is in fact external to the noun phrase. With indefinite objects related to possession, the locative is a secondary predicate licensed by the argument structure of the verb (a type of licensing which can be described using Ramchand’s 2008 syntactic representation of argument structure). With generic DPs, it is the predicate of a small clause mapped to the restriction of the generic operator. The exceptions to the aforementioned generalization reduce thus to one – locatives inside predicative indefinites. In order to account for the obligatory use of *de* inside argumental DPs and the specificity effects that *de*-locatives induce, I propose that locatives cannot function as direct NP-modifiers, but require the syntactic projection of their external argument, if it is an individual. Therefore, they appear inside reduced relatives, in which *de* binds the world variable of the locative.

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