"In the 8/9th century CE, an unknown author translated the Holy Book of the Muslims from Arabic into Greek. It is among the earliest translations of the Qur'an and was extensively quoted by the Byzantine patriarchs and other scholars. The translation contains some textual differences, but theologically, it is highly important with respect to its original view. It seems to be the result of a Christian hermeneutical reading of the Qur'an.

The Seminar aims to highlight some methodological aspects of the analysis of the Arabic-Greek translation, and is, thus, related to Qur'anic studies. In addition, the manuscript is one of the rare written testimonies for colloquial Byzantine Greek. For Liturgical Studies, the translation is interesting because of its use of technical terms in Byzantine liturgy. Beyond the analysis, the Seminar shall give some perspectives on the Byzantine polemic against Islam as Nicetas' attempt had a vast influence on later Byzantine and even mediaeval European apologetic writing against Islam."