

**Ius est ars boni et aequi:
A textual research on a Roman legal maxim**

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Abstract

Ius est ars boni et aequi is one of Celsus's maxim. As far as this dictum is concerned, Ius means law, ars art, and boni et aequi just and appropriate. The law is not only a kind of art, but also has its own internal system and a characteristic that differs in different people, different time and different places. It is to highlight the importance of men and the instrument rationality of the law by emphasizing that law is art; while the boni et aequi is not only the internal value pursuit of the law, but also is the norm with which the Roman jurists valued whether the regulations were good or not. This maxim has a quality of equality in itself, and the equality is an important thing which gave the Roman law a strong life. This maxim is a combination of the ideal and the reality, and it indicated that Celsus and other Roman jurists' quality of having the starry heavens in their minds and putting their feet on the ground. Because of this, this maxim has been handed down to now.

Keywords: Celsus, Ius, Ars, Boni et aequi