

Fasching und Karneval: Grüße und Narrenrufe (greetings and fool shouts)

der Brauch, die Bräuche: custom
 das Gruß, die Grüße: greeting
 der Ausdruck, die Ausdrücke: expression, saying
 der Narrenruf, die Narrenrufe: shouts, screams, calls from a fool

THE CALLS YOU'LL HEAR AT CARNIVAL—AND WHAT THEY MEAN



People celebrating Carnival outside Cologne's cathedral. But what are they shouting?

"Helau!" "Alaaf!" "Narri-Narro!" These are some of the different 'fools' calls' from across Germany. Wherever people celebrate Carnival (or Fasching, or Fastnet), you hear the shouts. But where do they come from, and what do they mean?

"Alaaf" is the easiest to explain," says Georg Cornelissen, from the Institute of Regional Studies and History in Bonn.