



univie global

*The International
Magazine of the
University of Vienna*
2017

A look at the University of Vienna from outside

Exchange students and
guest teachers talk
about their experiences



**universität
wien**

International Office

The Non-EU student exchange programme was not only a great opportunity to get to know the university system in a foreign country but also an enriching experience, from an academic and a personal point of view. While being in Vienna, I also had the opportunity to make contact with people from the same branch of work. I will soon be returning to the city in order to do an internship. A semester abroad might not be the easiest semester of your studies, but it will be for sure the one in which you learn the most. I strongly recommend this exchange programme as an opportunity to get to know amazing people, a new culture, and why not, maybe a second home.

Yasmin Arbelaiz, Argentina
Non-EU Student Exchange





Cassandra Masters, USA
Non-EU Student Exchange

***Studying in Vienna** was one of the most remarkable experiences I've had in my young adult life. Not only is the city itself **vibrant, diverse,** and exciting, but my courses and fellow classmates made the city that much more engaging. I knew very little about Vienna when I said "yes" to studying there, which made it all the more exciting and rewarding. I was drawn to the unique position Austria and Vienna has had in history, the EU, and European society as a whole.*

As a political science and history major, I was hesitant to be taking classes in Austria, where I knew there would be different lenses and perspectives applied to my fields of interest. This, however, turned out to be the most rewarding aspect of my semester. Not only was I taking classes with a more Austrian and European perspective, but I was taking them with people from all over the world. I met other people from the United States, numerous Austrian students, and so many more students from France, Italy, China, and many other places. These were the most diverse classrooms I have ever been in, and I was constantly enjoying the unique perspectives everyone brought to discuss world politics, medieval history, and U.S. politics. I learned so much that I will take with me in my future career development, as well as back to my home university in the States.

I attended multiple "Stammtisch" meet ups organized by my home university program, and met many Austrian students. I made friends who showed me the city in a different light, and I will definitely keep in touch with them. While the more subtle language barrier was frustrating, I was still able to interact with students. I wish I would have learned more German, but it was less motivating since all of the students I interacted with knew English and my courses were in English (I had less incentive to learn German therefore). However, I am planning on returning to Vienna in a few years for my Masters degree, and hope to pursue German classes then. Vienna and, in particular, the University of Vienna, left a profound impact on my academic and personal development, and I am excited to share and continue to grow based on what I learned during my semester. If I could say one thing to someone hesitant to study abroad: Just do it. Don't think about it, just say "yes" and everything else will fall into place. It may not be easy, but it will be rewarding and you'll be so glad you did it.



Heinz Faßmann
Vice-Rector for
Research and
International Affairs

I am delighted to be able to present to you **univie global**, the new international magazine of the University of Vienna, which presents international networks and initiatives with an international focus at the University of Vienna with a fresh, new look.

The focus in the current edition is on how the University of Vienna is seen by visitors from outside the university: we asked visiting students and lecturers from various programmes about their impressions of the time they spent at the University of Vienna. Encouragingly we received a wide range of positive responses. International students feel happy at the University of Vienna, value the international experience and contacts as well as the change of perspective which a visit abroad makes possible, and they were full of praise for the wide range of courses on offer at the University of Vienna.

In addition to experiences which benefit the individual participants, a knock-on effect of the academic exchange programme is a bottom-up intensification of cooperation between the partner universities. Networking between the universities also happens top-down as a result of coming together in university networks. The article “Not seeking solutions alone, but together” provides information on the University of Vienna’s strategy as regards participation in university networks.

Furthermore, in this edition of the magazine you will find, for example, articles on international congresses at the University of Vienna and how these contribute to international networking, on continuing education courses with an international focus and facts and figures relating to internationalisation.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this edition and hope that our readers will enjoy reading the new **univie global**!

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1, 10, 23, 26,
28f, 34f, 45

Contributions to
the main topic
are indicated by a figure
with a telescope.



University Networks

Not seeking solutions alone,
but together

The interview partners: **Heinz Faßmann** is Vice-Rector for Research and International Affairs. **Lottelis Moser** is Head of the International Office. The interview was conducted by **Michaela Fiska**, International Office.

Photos: Barbara Mayr



Lottelis Moser

It is a very pleasing development that we are being asked to join networks with increasing regularity.

The University of Vienna is a member of many networks. What functions do these networks serve?

Heinz Faßmann: Networks can have two different functions, and you can also categorise the networks according to these functions. One category is advocacy groups for universities – networks as an institution for lobbying with important European and also national decision making bodies. For example, the EUA is an example of this kind of institution which represents the interests of universities, and UNICA would also be something along those lines. The second type of network is a consortium to promote and stimulate research, to bring universities together or, in other words, to bring together researchers so that they can actually undertake interesting research. CENTRAL would be an example of this type of academically-oriented network. These are the two main functions.

Lottelis Moser: I would just add that there is now also a new kind of network that specifically aims at lobbying for the internationalisation of students. For example, it was one of VR Faßmann's initiatives to join the EUF network, and in UN networks such as ACUNS and RAUN, the University of Vienna is trying to prepare the ground for opportunities in respect of "internationalisation at home". Among other things, our membership of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS) enables students to get involved in the preparation of UN conferences and events and to attend them.

And what criteria does the University of Vienna apply in order to decide which networks to join?

HF: Well, it must already be a network that includes universities of the same size and with a similar status to that of the University of Vienna. Obviously we must see that there is some chance that the actual function which is ascribed to the network can be achieved.

LM: It is a very pleasing development that we are being asked to join networks with increasing regularity.

How would you describe the impact of university networks?

HF: It varies. Some networks are efficient and then you can see that something is happening there, there is a recognisable outcome, in terms of lobbying, research and support of students. Based on my experience, it always depends somewhat on the extent to which the universities involved really engage with the network and how good the network's organisers are. "Guild" would be an example of a new network of research-oriented universities. It has a committed core team and you can see that things are really happening. They are drawing up a lot of opinions and undertaking a lot of lobbying work. But some networks have probably already had their day, and you have to consider whether or not it is worth staying in them. There are also cases where we have withdrawn from a network because we could see that it was not meeting its objectives. And every network entails some kind of cost, whether it be work or membership fees or something else.

LM: There has to be a professional network behind it if you are really going to bring life to a network like this. In future a mere consortium of universities will not achieve anything.

What would be a concrete example of the impact achieved by a network, what can they achieve?

HF: So, for example, with the help of the universities that belong to the network, "the Guild" is drawing up a series of opinions on the follow-on to the EU funding programmes Horizon 2020 and ERASMUS+. The professional core team then organises things like "breakfast with members of the Parliament" or "lobbying with commission members" in order to give our vision of how the next research funding programme should look some weight.

"Guild" would be an example of a new network of research-oriented universities.

Heinz Faßmann





Michaela Fiska

Or take our student-oriented network, the European University Foundation (EUF): it is really committed and has now – with the aid of third-party funding – developed an Erasmus app. We input our knowledge, of how Erasmus processes can be managed within universities, for example, and developed the app within the network. “Erasmus without paper” is a keyword in this area, which we say would be of great value, and they then attempt to make it happen within the network.

LM: One network which is very active is the one with the Humboldt University in Berlin and the University of Zurich. In this there are regular meetings at management level and also at the administrative and professional levels. That is to say, the heads of the International Offices meet, the heads of the research services meet and so do the heads of other areas, the libraries for example, the aim being institutional learning.

So you benefit from one another and learn from one another. And what other steps and projects are planned and how do these relate to the University of Vienna’s internationalisation strategy?

HF: So, if you go through the networks, you can see there is already a certain focus on the Central/Eastern European region and on Europe in general. I think that reflects our work overall. But there are also networks which cover large areas in a very efficient manner, such as ASEA-UNINET. By participating in such networks, you also have many partner states and partner universities in South-east Asia on board. Eurasia-Pacific UNINET is similar. What we have sometimes discussed, and what we would like, would be if there were some kind of Africa network for universities, where, with relatively low start-up funding, you bring together a lot of universities and test them – find out which universities are at what level in which disciplines. In this respect Africa remains something of a terra incognita for us, and I think a network would be a really efficient way to explore this terra incognita. And our other activities aim at developing something like global perspectives with a different emphasis – a geographical emphasis – together with the University of Vienna, but wherever possible through forming networks.

So the networks or the activities undertaken in the networks that the University of Vienna belongs to correspond to the internationalisation strategy or the areas which are identified in the internationalisation strategy?

LM: I think that the University of Vienna has a very coherent approach in this respect. On the one hand, in the internationalisation strategy we have a certain regional focus – Asia and Central and Eastern Europe – and that is reflected well in our networks. We have a focus on the internationalisation of research and, in this regard, a very strong focus on EU funding. The networks intensify that focus. We have a focus on student mobility and mobility of teaching staff.

Here, too, we are attempting to create better framework conditions through our networks and to incorporate the mobility initiatives within a European context. And within “the Guild” we explore political changes – the question of Brexit is also being discussed in “the Guild”, that is to say, together with the British universities, we are trying to find solutions to current obstacles to cooperation.

HF: Precisely: not seeking solutions alone, but together. ▮▮▮

Together with the British universities, we are trying to find solutions to current obstacles to cooperation.

Heinz Faßmann



The International Office
of the University of Vienna
is now on facebook:



[https://www.facebook.com/
international.univie/](https://www.facebook.com/international.univie/)

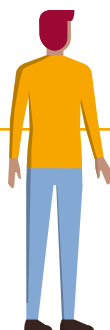
Please come and join us!

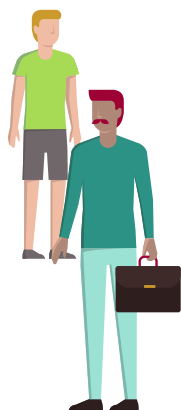
University Networks

Cooperations and Memberships of the University of Vienna

The following compilation categorises memberships of the University of Vienna in university networks according to their function.

ADVOCACY GROUPS	
DRC Danube Rectors' Conference	The Danube Rectors' Conference's aim is to improve higher education in teaching and research, and the advancement of its member universities by establishing sustainable contacts. https://www.drc-danube.org/
EUA European University Association	The European University Association is the representative organisation of universities and national rectors' conferences in 47 European countries. http://www.eua.be/
GUILD The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities	The Guild , comprising 19 European universities, is dedicated to enhancing the voice of academic institutions, their researchers and their students. http://www.the-guild.eu/
Network Vienna/Berlin/Zurich	This cooperation between the Humboldt University of Berlin, the University of Zurich and the University of Vienna is based on the concept of "institutional learning".
UNICA Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe	UNICA seeks to facilitate international collaborations and promote academic leadership through understanding and sharing between its Members. http://www.unica-network.eu/





NETWORKS PROMOTING AND STIMULATING RESEARCH

ASEA-UNINET

ASEAN-European Academic University Network

ASEA-UNINET is a network of more than 80 universities in Europe and South-East Asia with the goal of promoting the continuous internationalization of education and research. <http://www.asea-uninet.org/>

CENTRAL

Central European Network for Teaching and Research in Academic Liaison

CENTRAL is an interdisciplinary teaching and research network, uniting leading universities in central European higher education. <https://www.projekte.hu-berlin.de/de/central/>

EPU

Eurasia-Pacific UNINET

Eurasia-Pacific UNINET aims at establishing contacts and scientific partnerships between Austrian universities, universities of applied sciences, other research institutions and member institutions in East Asia, Central Asia, South Asia and the Pacific region. <http://www.eurasiapacific.net/>



NETWORKS PROMOTING ACADEMIC INTERNATIONALISATION

ACUNS

Academic Council on the United Nations System

ACUNS is an association of educational and research institutions, individual scholars and practitioners active in the work and study of the United Nations, multilateral relations, global governance and international cooperation. <http://acuns.org/>

ESN

Erasmus Student Network

ESN's mission is to provide opportunities for cultural understanding and self-development under the principle of Students Helping Students. <https://esn.org/>

EU-CE

European University Foundation – Campus Europae

This network aims to strengthen the Higher Education Area in Europe and the strategic development of the European student mobility. **Campus Europae** is a mobility programme that is offered at the University of Vienna exclusively to teacher training students. <http://campuseuropae.org/>

RAUN

Regional Academy on the United Nations

RAUN is an international multi-disciplinary programme which trains young scholars in issues related to the United Nations and international cooperation. <http://www.ra-un.org/>



I gathered great experiences in Vienna. It was my first time in Europe and the first time I saw snow. I acquired many new techniques in the laboratory to improve myself. Moreover, I experienced new styles of living from other people in Europe as well as Christmas traditions. I hope I'll have the chance to visit Vienna again and again in other seasons. I love Vienna!

Natthawadi Wongthet, Thailand
Non-EU Student Exchange

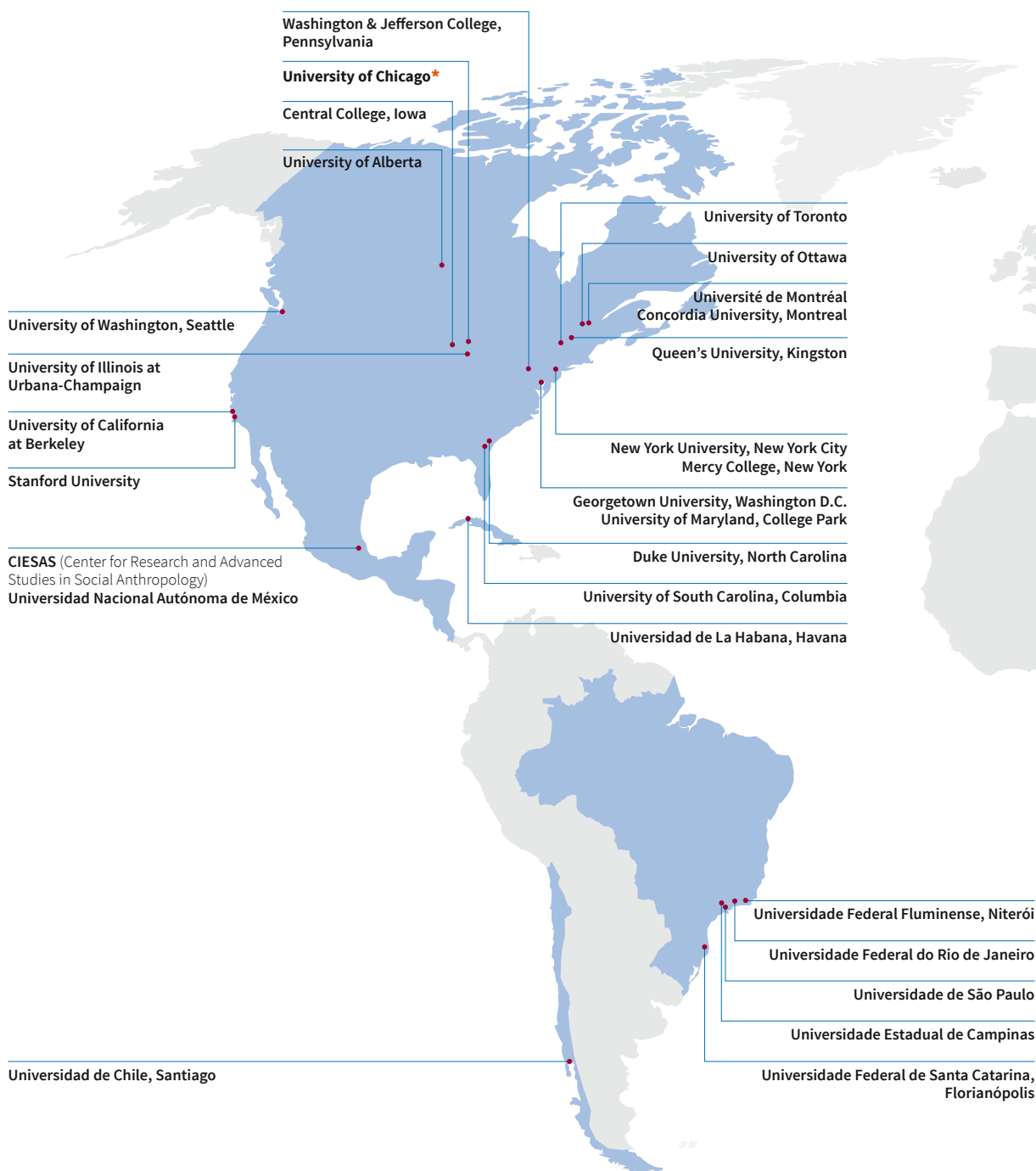




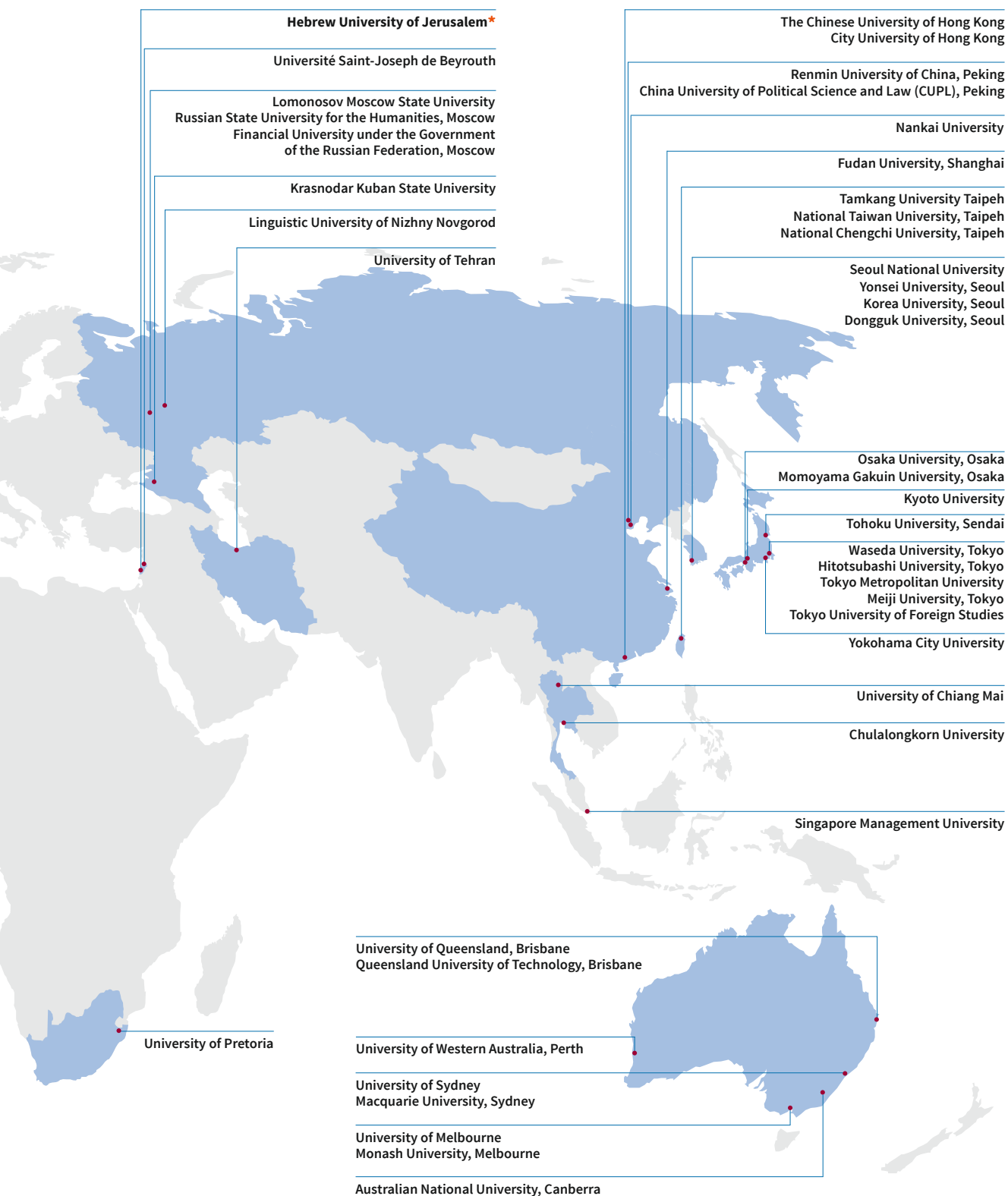
Partner Universities

at university-wide level (outside Europe)

Reporting Date: 27.7.2017



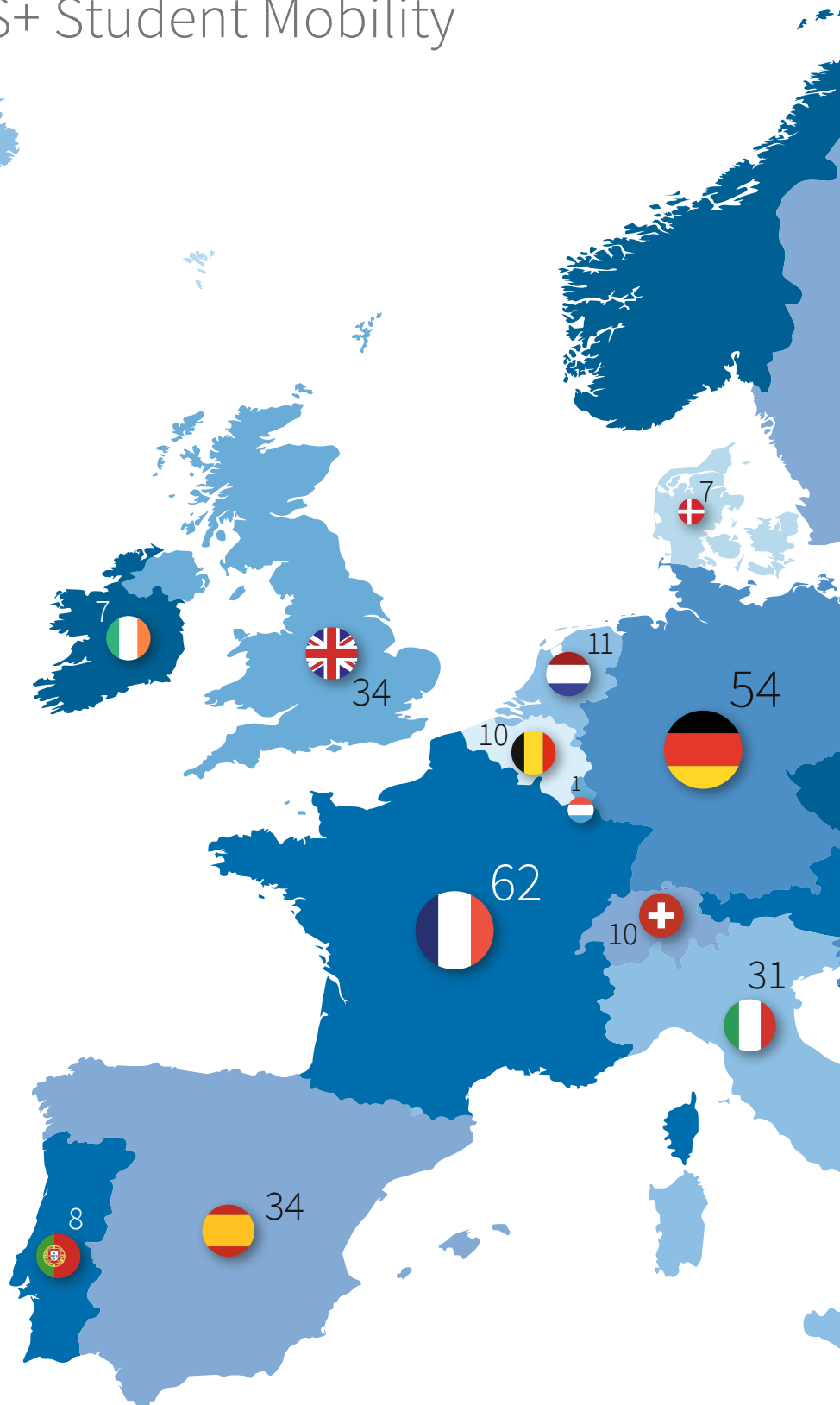
■ Countries with Partner Universities of the University of Vienna
 ★ Strategic Partnerships

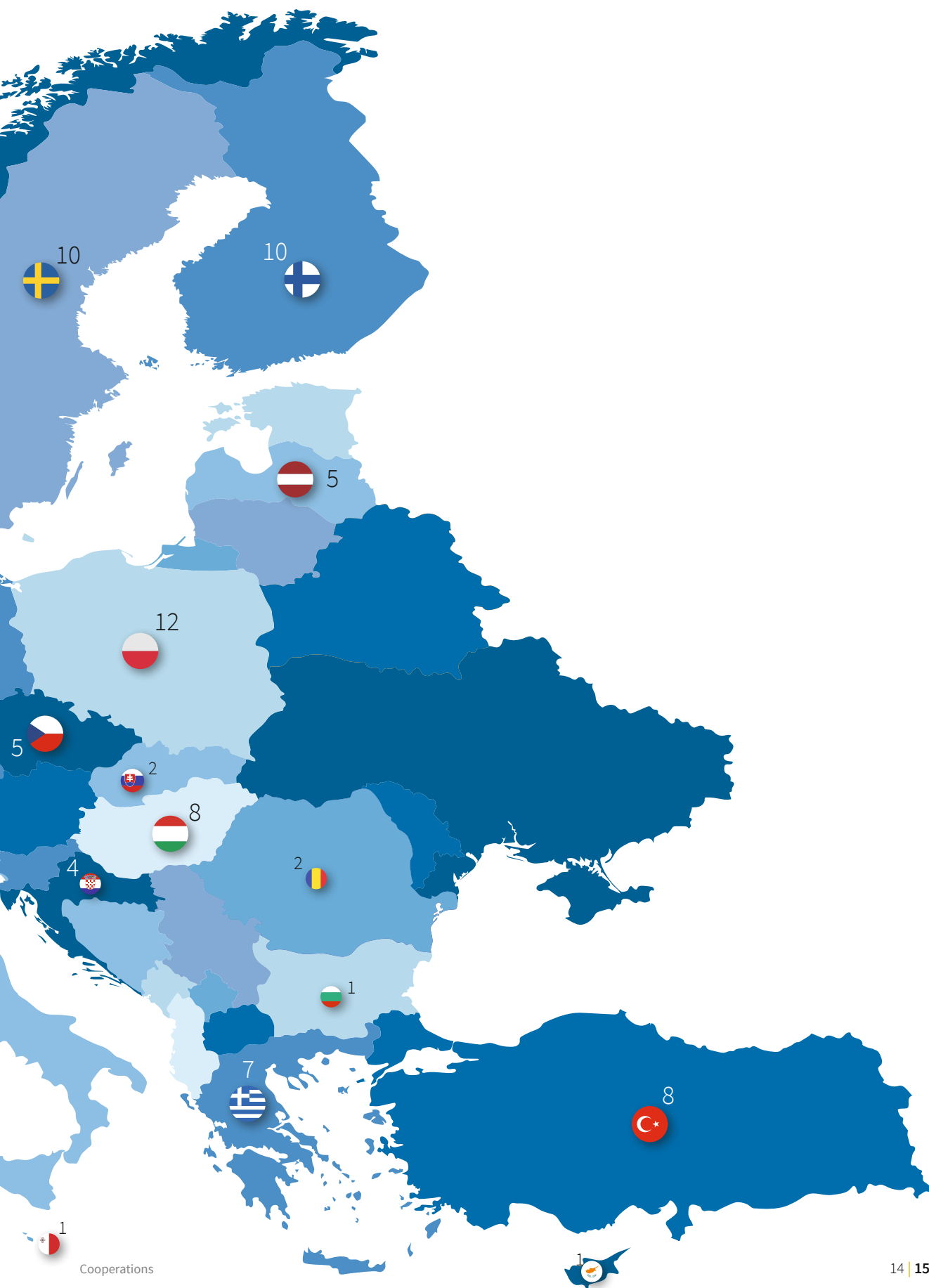


Partner Universities

for ERASMUS+ Student Mobility

Number of partner universities
in the respective country





Facts and Figures in brief

Internationalisation activities at the University of Vienna

Reporting period: 2016/17, unless stated otherwise

A detailed compilation of key figures regarding international affairs and internationalisation activities of the University of Vienna is provided on the following website: <http://international.univie.ac.at/home/international-report/>

Austria's largest University

80.435 active students

Top University

The University of Vienna is the best ranked university in Austria and numbers among the world's best 200 universities according to the THE World University Rankings 2018.



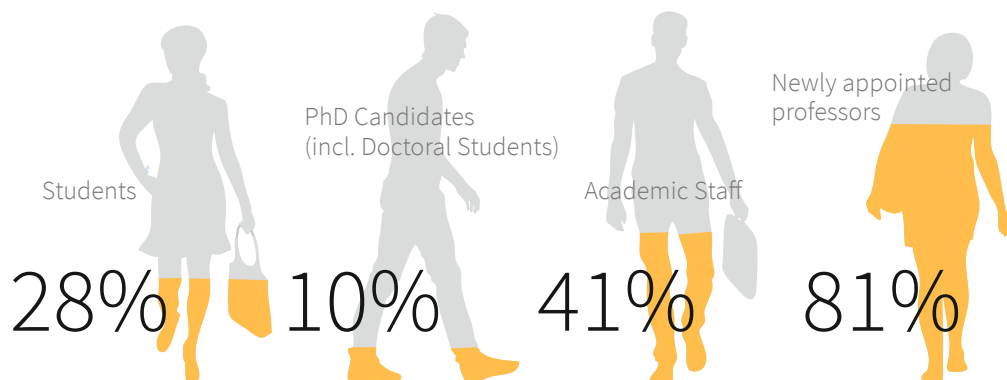
The University of Vienna has over 1.700 research, teaching, and student exchange agreements with partner universities all over the world.



1.700

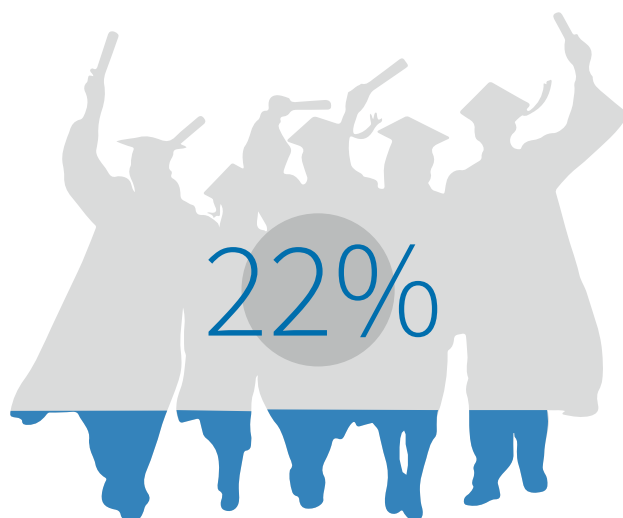
International Students and Staff

Percentages of students and staff from abroad

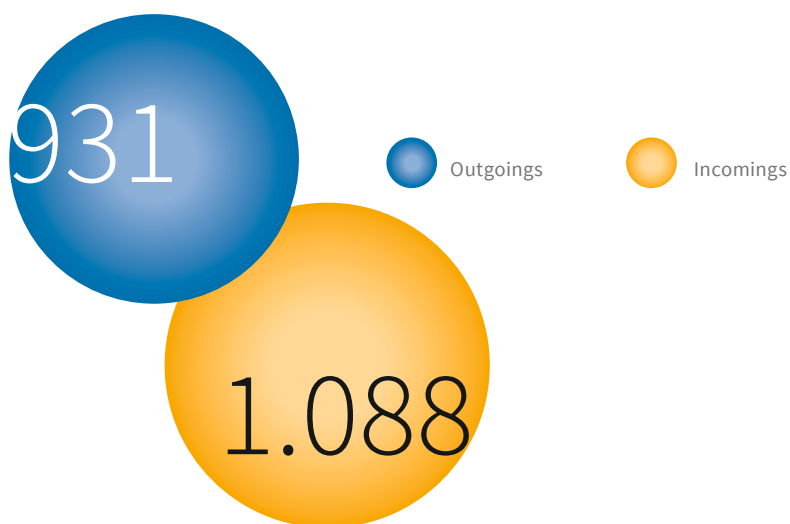


Student Mobility

Graduates with stay abroad¹



ERASMUS+ Programme



ERASMUS+ Internships



¹ Reporting period: 2014/15. Source: USTAT 2 survey; own calculations

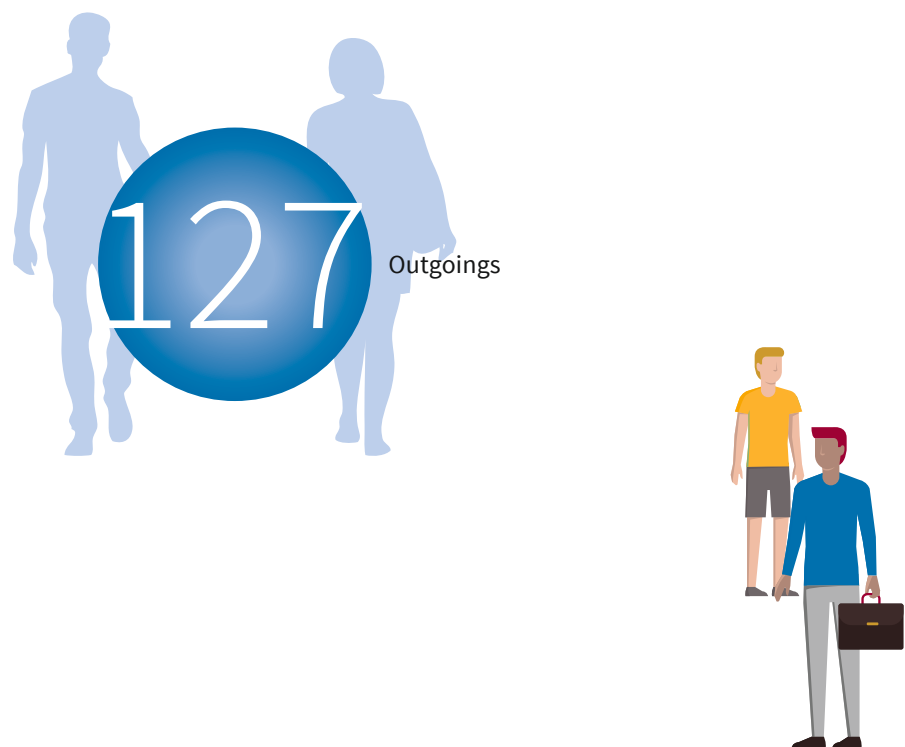
Non-EU Student Exchange Programme

This programme supports student exchange primarily with renowned partner universities outside the EU.



Teaching Mobility

ERASMUS+ Teaching Mobility



Happy Birthday Erasmus!



Staff of the International Office of the University of Vienna at its annual study abroad fair, “uni international”.

The University of Vienna is a pioneer and successful proponent of internationalisation in the higher education sector and, this year, is not only celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus programme, but also 25 years of successful participation by the University of Vienna in what is probably the best known EU programme.


Since the University of Vienna first started participating in the Erasmus programme in 1992, more than 37,500 of its students have benefited from the programme (including more than 20,400 outgoing students, over 17,100 incoming students and another 1,200 outgoing students in the Erasmus Internships Programme).



Within the framework of an Erasmus+ study visit, students from the University of Vienna can study at one of our more than 350 partner universities, or they can undertake a relevant internship in a company or at a university. The teaching and administrative staff of the University of Vienna also have the chance to enjoy mobility within Europe, thanks to the Erasmus+ programme: the Erasmus+ Staff Exchange provides them with an opportunity to acquire international teaching experience or to exchange information about their professional environment on an international level.

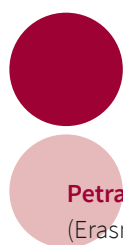
In the course of its continuous development, in 2015 the Erasmus+ programme once again

extended the range of its reach. The newly established Erasmus+ International Mobility Programme now also enables visits to partner universities outside of the European Union.

However, the Erasmus+ programme is not limited to facilitating mobility visits: among other things, the Erasmus+ Higher Education Projects Programme facilitates projects on innovations in teaching and learning methods or on the networking of universities, both with other universities and with other teaching institutions or commercial enterprises. This track constitutes an important pillar for third-party funded project work. 

Erasmus Success Stories

univie *global* asked former participants about their experiences with and benefits from the Erasmus programme.



Petra Dannecker, project coordinator “KNOTS”
(Erasmus+ Higher Education Project)

The objective of the Erasmus+ CBHE (Capacity Building in Higher Education) project KNOTS (Fostering Multi-lateral Knowledge Networks of Transdisciplinary Studies to Tackle Global Challenges), coordinated by the University of Vienna’s Institute for International Development, is to develop and implement teaching concepts and approaches to research together with partner universities in Thailand, Vietnam, in the Czech Republic and in Germany. Starting from the assumption that global challenges such as

migration, social inequality and the sustainable use of resources are going to require new ways of producing and also of disseminating knowledge, which should, in particular, include parties outside of the universities, joint research visits, summer universities and the development of teaching and learning materials, new transdisciplinary strategies and forms of knowledge production and dissemination are being discussed and developed. More information on the KNOTS project is available at <http://knots.univie.ac.at/>

Karen Schramm, project coordinator “LEELU”
(Erasmus+ Higher Education Project)

Many European high school students are reluctant readers with only very basic reading competence. Inspired by the ERASMUS motto „changing lives, opening minds“, the project Developing Teaching Competencies for Extensive Reading Programs (LEELU) addresses this issue. Its major aims are, first, to raise foreign language reading competencies of high-school students and, second, to test and improve an experience-based, cooperative model of foreign language teacher education with regard to

teaching reading skills. Using the example of German as a Foreign Language, LEELU will contribute to an increase of foreign language and reading levels of students with poor reading skills as well as promote a practical model for the local and international cooperation of student teachers and experienced teachers in digitally-enhanced networks.

Inspired by the idea of international teacher cooperation, the LEELU team has established a network of 18 German as a for-

eign language teachers in Budapest, Utrecht and Palermo. They videotape their team-teaching and choose particular sequences for discussion with international partners. LEELU empirically evaluates this innovative model of teacher education as well as the success of young readers in the LEELU classrooms. The LEELU-Project is a cooperation between Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, the University of Palermo, Utrecht University and the University of Vienna. For more information:

<https://leelu.eu/>



Júlia Pérez

Erasmus Student Exchange (Incoming; Spain)



Last year, at about the same time, I was already packing everything and this makes me feel really nostalgic now. I chose Vienna as destination and the impressive and amazing University of Vienna for my semester abroad and, to be honest, it was the best decision I could have ever taken. I had the chance to study at a university that really cares about abroad students by organising loads of welcome events and meetings from the very beginning and by offering a wide range of courses from which to choose (also in English, which is an important point!!). With regard to the city, what can I say? I completely fell in love with each of its corners,

streets and stunning buildings. Since the day I arrived I knew I had made the right choice and it was going to be a great semester. Now, some months after coming back, I can assure you it was even better than expected and I currently understand the huge amount of feelings the single word “Erasmus” could hide. Without any doubt, I encourage everybody to take this adventure since it should be a compulsory experience in every student to-do list!

P.S.: Despite coming from my lovely Barcelona, I even got used to the winter there and the only thing I regret is not having spent the whole year there instead of just one semester!

Yonatan Malament

Erasmus International Student Mobility (Incoming; Israel)

I participated in a German language summer programme at the University of Vienna and really enjoyed the city and the atmosphere, and had good experiences with the teachers of the Sprachenzentrum. When I had the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus program, Vienna was my first choice. As a MA student I didn't take too many courses, but the ones I took were interesting and engaging. Academically, my time at the University of Vienna gave me an opportunity to experience learning in a different context and in a different country. Personally, I made many new

friends, I had the opportunity to travel and discover the city of Vienna, Austria, which is really a beautiful country, and other parts of Europe, such as Germany, Switzerland and Italy and Slovenia, that are just a few hours away from Vienna. I had studied German for about a year before I came. During my exchange, I studied only in English, so there was no problem with that aspect. Most of my interactions in German were going out or buying stuff, and I could really get along with my basic German, and even improved it. Also, almost everyone also knows English in Vienna.



Stephanie Cox

Erasmus Student Exchange (Outgoing; Netherlands)

Erasmus gives you the opportunity to expand your horizons. Not just through the people that you meet on your visit, but through the knowledge you can acquire on site, in a completely

different way, in a completely different language, and also with a completely different mind-set because you have the chance to immerse yourself in a different culture.



Ursula Wagner

Erasmus Student Exchange and Erasmus Staff Training (Outgoing; Netherlands, Belgium and Italy)

I would definitely recommend Erasmus to others. I benefited enormously from the programme, especially where my knowledge of foreign languages is concerned, and I think it is just a fabulous opportunity to get to know another university, to see how things are done and to exchange information with colleagues there.

Beatrix Hiesmayr

physicist at the University of Vienna
Erasmus Teaching Mobility (Outgoing; United Kingdom)

Even in a digital age, a face to face meeting has not lost any of its importance. In my case, as a teacher, getting to know a new

teaching system was also one essential motivation to participate in the Erasmus programme.





Kathy Zaruba

Erasmus Student Exchange (Outgoing; United Kingdom)

It's been almost a year since I started my journey to study at the University of Manchester for a semester as an Erasmus exchange student, and almost two since I started the application process. Looking back from where I'm now, I can only say that I truly regret that time fosters oblivion. The 4.5-month experience I made during the winter semester of 2016/17 was unique in every way, and I love all the memories I made and still have access to. Of course it wasn't always easy. University was very tough and I spent most of my time reading books in my room. Also, I can count the good friends I made and am still in contact with on one, or maybe

two hands. But nevertheless I miss every single minute of my semester abroad. The impact it has had on my life at present is immense, and I'm not only talking about personal growth, but also about opportunities that have opened up to me after I got back from the UK. But the life abroad also made me appreciate my home in Vienna a lot more. So all in all I am beyond thankful that I have had the opportunity to spend one semester in a foreign country and to have gained insights into the education program of the University of Manchester. I learned a lot and would always go through the effort to do this again.

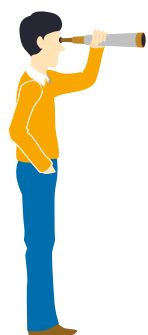
Andreas Schuster

Erasmus+ Internships (Outgoing; France)

During my “Erasmus+” international internship as a German assistant in a school in northern France, I encountered the friendliest and most helpful people you can imagine. The pupils were

highly motivated and participated enthusiastically in their German lessons. At the same time, I was able to acquire experience of teaching and to learn new methods which will

be beneficial to me in my future career as a teacher in Austria. I can recommend an “Erasmus+” international internship to everyone. This experience has really enriched my life!



Theodora Tsalamida

Erasmus Student Exchange (Incoming; Greece)

My Erasmus semester in Vienna was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Not only is the city majestically beautiful, located in a very convenient position for travel lovers, but also the University offers great facilities

and amenities for students (the Facultas cards for photocopies and the well-organised book-lending system are only two examples). Vienna is in the heart of Europe and will remain inside all the participants' heart.

Tatjana Atanasoska

lecturer in the Teacher Training Centre of the University of Vienna
Erasmus+ Teaching Mobility (Outgoing; Germany)

For me it was fantastic to be able to meet in person people I already knew from my research, and in a much smaller forum than is the case at many conferences. To be able to bring perspectives from teacher training and from the schools in Vienna and to present them first hand to both colleagues and students was enriching for both sides. And I was able to learn and bring back a lot with me from

Saxony in connection with my particular research areas of “refugee pupils” and teacher training, especially in the conversations before and after lectures. After all, teacher training is a national course. In schools in Austria – and vice versa for other countries – you predominantly find teachers who completed their teacher training in Austria. That is why it was interesting for me

to teach people who are training as teachers in a different system and, through this, to get to know the students and the education system first hand. I deliberately chose the University of Leipzig and I can honestly say, that the exchanges with colleagues and students there, the conversations, the whole experience benefited me tremendously.



Christian Wimpissinger

lawyer

Erasmus Student Exchange (Outgoing; Netherlands)

A study visit to a university abroad means more than simply studying in a foreign language with different teaching methods. For me it had a similar effect to holidays when I was a small child, far away from home: one not only adapts to the new environment, but also undergoes a significant development. It seems like an overcompensation: the brain not only adjusts to the changes in studying, but becomes altogether more receptive and nimble, apparently assuming that it must also be prepared for new things in the

future. And that in itself is a self-fulfilling prophecy. For me it meant that immediately after my ERASMUS visit to Leiden (Netherlands) I went on to a work-experience placement in London and the desire to enjoy an international career. In fact, once I finished my studies it took me abroad for seven years and nowadays – having been back in Vienna for 10 years now – I still primarily work in English. My ERASMUS visit also affected my personal life, bringing with it friendships that span from Finland to Spain and the USA to

Latin America. What can bring you together more than cooking (pancakes with guacamole) and washing up together, cramming for exams together and celebrating copiously afterwards, learning Dutch with Italians and then, at the first attempt to use it out on the streets, being spoken to by the locals in German? To sum up, every ERASMUS application form should carry a warning in bold print: Could be life changing – might cause pain upon end – but will open new perspectives making the end only a beginning.

The courses I took were extremely relevant to current world issues and the professors were all so passionate. Honestly, I have rarely felt so stimulated, determined and challenged in class discussions, and because you're encouraged to consider all perspectives, having a cohort consisting of over 30 different nationalities made this learning experience such a unique one. I don't think I'll ever come across a place of learning where I have felt so comfortable, surrounded by great and loyal friends, where all prejudices are pushed aside and new cultures are discovered. Most importantly, what really made this program for me were the people. The Sommerhochschule staff (the organisers, administrators and professors) are not only mentors, but friends. I have no words to explain how hard they worked and how much they invested into making this the best experience possible, only that I am extremely grateful for every little thing they did for us. My fellow students are the most beautiful people I have ever met.

I formed friendships that I believe will last infinitely.



Ellen Wood, Australia
Participant at the univie: summer school
for International and European Studies
(Sommerhochschule Strobl)



The Non-EU Teaching Mobility Program gave me the opportunity, firstly, to learn about the teaching and evaluating systems at the University of Vienna, to introduce my home university's related operation systems to my counterparts, and to make objective comparisons between diverse systems. Secondly, to open my academic horizons and get to know what the international scholars were following and focusing on. Thirdly, to establish new scholarly links with the European universities and invite more international faculty members to give lectures and seminars at Chinese universities. The Non-EU Teaching Mobility Program provides an academic exchange platform for global scholars, and I am definitely willing to recommend the Non-EU Teaching Mobility Program to scholars I am acquainted with.



Prof. Dr. Wenxu CHEN, China
Non-EU Teaching Mobility

International conferences

Personal contacts still count in a digital world

Hosting about 264 national and international meetings and congresses every year, the University of Vienna contributes to Vienna's eminent position as a conference destination:

Falk Pastner
Michaela
Griehsler-Holstein

Congresses and symposia are the most effective formats for networking and the exchange of information within the international scientific community. They enable participants to develop personal contacts and connections and create a strong counter pole to the virtual world and digital communication. Personal discussions function as a motor for future developments as well as for profiling the particular academic subject area.

With lecture halls and other rooms at 63 locations across Vienna, the University of Vienna is one of Austria's leading conference and event venues. More than 1,300 events took place at the University last year in addition to standard curricular teaching activities.

The spectrum ranged from international congresses initiated by professors driving research and attended by participants from 95 countries, via events aimed at a wider academic society, through to events which were explicitly aimed at students. The "unileben" welcome fair for students in October 2016 attracted 17,000 participants.

In 2016, 40,400 participants took part in 139 national and 125 international conferences, symposia and congresses. The proportion of international guests amounted to 48%. In 2016, the average duration of international congresses was 2.8 days. The University of Vienna's



aim is to increase the share of international participants.

According to the Meeting Industry Report Austria (MIRA) 2016, throughout Austria, universities and educational establishments record the highest level of international events as the location for symposia and congresses. In this, large-scale congresses with more than 2,000 participants dominate.

Examples of big international congresses at the University of Vienna in 2016 are the following events: With 4,230 participants, the **Third ISA Forum of Sociology 2016** was the biggest international congress at the University of Vienna in 2016. Initiated by Rudolf Richter, University of Vienna, Department of Sociology, sociologists from 126 countries attended the congress,

holding discussions in five plenary sessions and 750 other sessions.

<http://isaforum2016.univie.ac.at>

In March 2016, the Faculty of Law of the University of Vienna (Eric E. Bergsten) once again invited participants in the **Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot** (“Vis Moot”) to the premises of the Faculty of Law (“Juridicum”). 3,503 participants attended the major event. “Vis Moot” is the biggest and best known international competition for students in the field of international arbitration and business law. The team from the University of Vienna made it into the final round and received an honourable mention for its memorandum for the respondent (Werner Melis Award).

<https://vismoot.pace.edu/>

Below: Participants of the 3rd ISA Forum of Sociology are taking a break in the university's Arcaded Courtyard. (Photo: Karl Valent)





Above:
Impressions from
the 3rd ISA Forum of
Sociology 2016
(Photo: Karl Valent)

Right side:
A group picture from
the International
Conference on
the Science and
Application of
Nanotubes (NT 16)
(Photo: Joseph
Krpelan)

The **21st World Congress of the International Comparative Literature Association (ICLA 2016)**, (Achim Hermann Hölter, University of Vienna, Department of European and Comparative Literature and Language Studies), brought 1,533 participants to the University of Vienna.
<http://icla2016.univie.ac.at>

In 2016, the humanities enjoyed the most growth in symposia and congresses throughout Austria, and thus reduced the gap between these and medicine.

The formal and natural sciences (e.g. **International Conference on the Science and Application of Nanotubes – NT16**, Paola Ayala, University of Vienna, Electronic Properties of Materials; <http://nt16.univie.ac.at>) and IT and Communications continue to lead the ranking by subject.

The biggest segment by numbers in relation to events at the University of Vienna in 2016 continues to be that of small to medium-sized symposia and congresses with 10 to 500 participants.

Green meetings are a growing trend in events. In order to make congresses, symposia and conferences more efficient and environmentally friendly, the Ministry of Life, together with the congress sector and the Association for Consumer Information has developed a new standard for events: **the Austrian ecolabel for “Green Meetings and Green Events”**. Since September 2015, the Event Management Office of the University of Vienna has been a licensee for “Green Meeting” certification. 



The Event Management Office at the University of Vienna offers a wide range of services, from pre-conference planning to post-conference follow-up. We offer superior management of conference logistics, giving organizers back precious time to focus on the conference program.

For more information, please contact:

Falk Pastner, MBA

Head of Event Management and Conference Services
event@univie.ac.at | <http://event.univie.ac.at/>





I really miss the life in Vienna after my return to China. I was impressed by the state opera, the summer night concert, the content-rich museums and the easeful life.

The German language course was so fantastic, my classmates were from different countries. The programme gave me the opportunity to see people from all over the world, to learn something I hadn't known before and to find my true self.

Shiyao SU, China
Non-EU Student Exchange





I wanted to study in a German-speaking country to improve my German skills. The University of Vienna is a very good University. There were so many courses and we could study anything we wanted.

My German level allowed me to understand only 30-40% in German-language courses, so I took German classes at the Sprachenzentrum and reviewed at home.

SARI TAKENOBU, Japan
Non-EU Student Exchange



The Postgraduate Center of the University of Vienna

Continuing Education with an International Focus

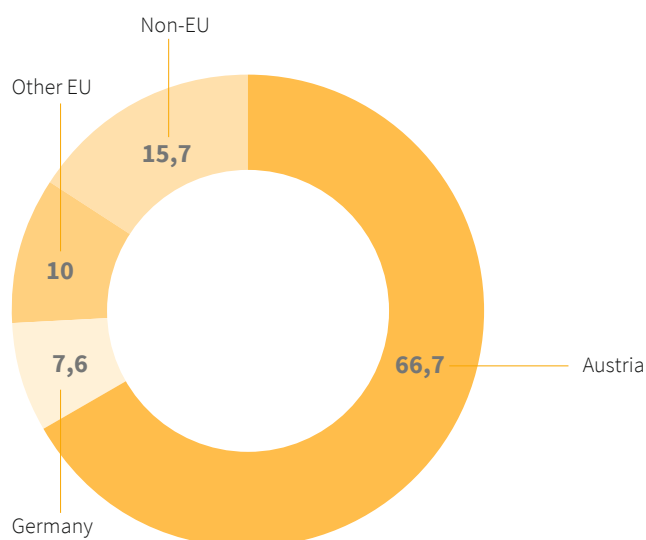
Elke A. Gornik

The Postgraduate Center of the University of Vienna is the competence centre for continuing education and lifelong learning at the University of Vienna. Over 50 master programmes, university and certificate courses in the fields of “Education & Social Care”, “Health & Natural Sciences”, “International Affairs & Business”, “Communication & Media” and “Law” are offered. The continuing education programmes enable students to acquire interdisciplinary, vocational and supplementary qualifications. Most continuing education programmes are designed to be extra-occupational (part-time study whilst working) and are subject to quality assurance criteria which meet international academic standards at university level.

Participants on continuing education courses

in the winter semester 2016

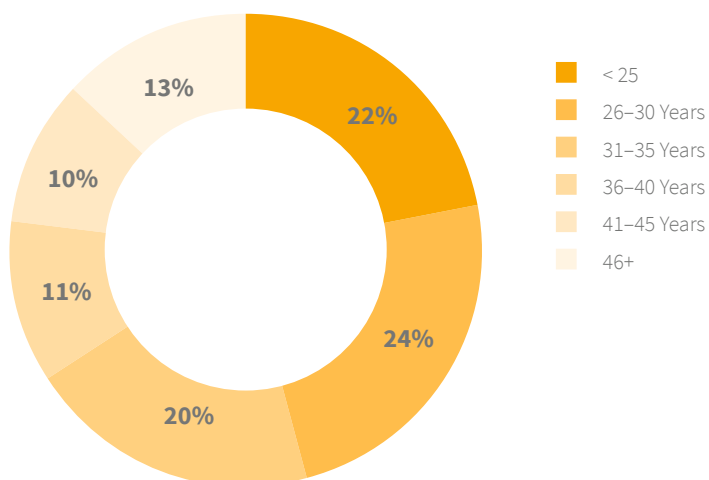
Fig.1: Students on continuing education courses at the University of Vienna in the winter semester 2016 by country of origin



In the winter semester 2016/17, of a total 1,575 participants on continuing education courses, 1,050 (corresponding to 66.7 %) came from Austria, 120 from Germany (7.6 %), 158 from other EU countries (10 %) and 247 from non-EU countries (15.7 %).

All participants on continuing education courses

Fig.2: Participants on continuing education courses at the University of Vienna in the winter semester 2016 by age



International students are benefiting from a growing range of courses offered in English, international and interdisciplinary postgraduate programmes. In 2016, the continuing education programme at the University of Vienna was once again expanded. The following programmes were successfully established in the academic year 2016:

- “Court and Public Service Interpreting” – university course
- “Real Estate and Residential Property Law” – master programme
- “Cultural Management” – certificate course
- “Collection Development and Management in Academic Libraries” – certificate course
- “Library Leadership and Management” – certificate course



The following continuing education programmes with an international focus were successfully established at the University of Vienna in 2016:

New with an international focus for the winter semester 2016/17

The **Cultural Management** certificate course imparts knowledge on the topics of project management, intercultural communication, media work, community engagement and intercultural exchanges; always in the context of national and international cultural activities. In a single semester, the extra-occupational, application-oriented continuing education course provides a condensed overview of this wide-ranging topic.

The university course **Court and Public Service Interpreting** was devised to meet the growing demand for professional (postgraduate) continuing education for interpreters and translators in the languages Arabic, Dari/Farsi and Turkish. For the first time at the University of Vienna, this course offers the opportunity for those working in the field of interpreting and translation to prepare in a practice-oriented way for working with the police and asylum authorities, in health, education and social institutions and in the field of law. Participants can take the university course “Court and Public Service Interpreting” as a full-time programme over the course of two semesters or part-time (extra-occupational) over three semesters.



New English-language master programmes for the summer semester 2018

The new international master programme **Global Political Economy of Sustainable Development** is to start in the summer semester 2018. The interdisciplinary and internationally-oriented university course is being run in collaboration with the Austrian Foundation for Development Research (ÖFSE) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The postgraduate continuing education course is entirely in English. With the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations has defined a new reference framework for global policies. Based in the UN city Vienna, the master programme aims at imparting policy-oriented knowledge and applied methods for the social and ecological design of sustainability policies on a national and an international level. This is based on a plural understanding of scientific approaches and theories with respect to globalisation and sustainability.

Longtime continuing education programmes with an international focus

In addition to the new continuing education programmes on offer, the Post-graduate Center is also able to rely on highly-regarded, internationally-oriented programmes which have been tried and tested over a number of years:



European and international Business Law, LL.M.

The focus in this university course is on an internationally operating company and its legal position within the European Single Market and in international commerce. Against this background, a broad specialised continuing education programme to train as a commercial lawyer with a European and international focus is provided. Particular attention is paid to European Union business law. The master programme can be taken in German or English, full-time over two semesters or part-time (extra-occupational) over 4 semesters.

www.postgraduatecenter.at/eiblaw

International Legal Studies, LL.M.

This LL.M. Programme gives law graduates the opportunity to specialise in the fields of international law, international organisations, international business law, international arbitration processes, investment dispute settlement and human rights. Students are encouraged to get to grips with the fundamental structures and specific issues in international law in both theory and practice. Among other things, the master programme aims at developing independent arguments and identifying correlations when writing academic papers.

The master programme can be taken in English, full-time over two semesters or part-time (extra-occupational) over four semesters.

ils.univie.ac.at

Human Rights, MA

The implementation of human rights at local, regional and international level requires highly motivated and qualified human rights experts. The interdisciplinary Master of Arts in Human Rights university course provides the knowledge and skills necessary for this. This is assured through the combination of an in-depth academic education in the field of human rights with a strong practice-based orientation. The master programme is offered in English, full-time over four semesters. In the course of their training, students undertake a semester in a work placement.

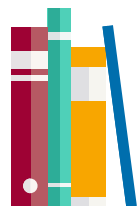
www.postgraduatecenter.at/humanrights



International Studies, M.A.I.S

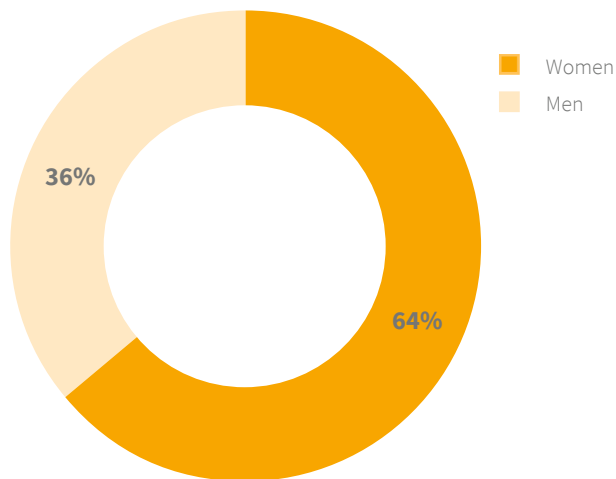
This university course is run in close collaboration with the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, based on principles of interdisciplinarity, internationality, topicality and participatory learning. The objective is to analyse and understand European and global development processes. Upon completion of the course in four semesters of full-time study, a range of international career opportunities in organisations, companies or in public or diplomatic service are open to graduates of the course.

www.postgraduatecenter.at/en/programs/international-affairs-business/international-studies/



Participants in winter semester 2016/17

Fig.3: Participants on continuing education courses at the University of Vienna in the winter semester 2016 by sex



Lifelong Learning Projects in Continuing Education at University Level

In addition to the development and delivery of postgraduate continuing education programmes, the Postgraduate Center of the University of Vienna aims to promote the quality of continued education teaching and measures for transferring what has been learned into society through concrete third-party funded projects in 2016.

Within the framework of the following four EU projects, the Postgraduate Center is working with a total of 24 European partners:

- The **HE4u2 Project** (Integrating Cultural Diversity in Higher Education) deals with diversity and didactics. This project, organised by the European continuing education network EUCEN, focuses on measures which enable teachers in continuing education at university level to tackle the challenge of “diversity and teaching”.
- The **UNIBILITY project (university meets social responsibility)** aims to strengthen the relationships between universities and their local surroundings through USR activities. The project will draw up strategies for how universities, together with their students and teaching staff, can actively increase their social responsibility.
- In the **Healthy Diversity** project, the ways in which diversity is taught and conveyed in training and continuing education – e.g. in psychotherapy courses – are examined in order to improve cross-cultural skills.
- The project **iYOT – In your own time** deals with educational guidance in the field of adult education and opportunities for adequate access to information and guidance for students enrolled in continuing education courses. The organisation of guidance on studying and continuing education at the University of Vienna is examined in substudies undertaken by the Postgraduate Center.

Existing projects (such as “UNIBILITY – University Meets Social Responsibility”, “uniMind – University Meets Industry”) and lifelong learning series (including the collaborative project between the Vienna Volkshochschule and the university, “University Meets Public”, exploring the interface university – industry – society) were also continued in 2016.

Future

With over 1,700 students per semester, the University of Vienna is one of the biggest providers of continuing education at university level in Austria. The development of a range of high-quality (postgraduate) continuing education courses at the University of Vienna will continue to be initialised, supported and offered by the Postgraduate Center. The focus is on people who have already completed a first degree and want to continue their education with a strongly vocational orientation.

In addition, the Postgraduate Center will continue to actively participate in the implementation of primarily international, EU-financed, third-party funded projects. The University of Vienna aims to continue to promote academic continuing education in the sense of lifelong learning in the years to come. 📖



One Stop Shop

Internationalisation @ University of Vienna

The University of Vienna operates several service facilities to assist international students and staff. This overview shows the most important services and offers of the University of Vienna regarding international issues.

Department	Task
Vice Rectorate for Research and International Affairs	Strategic Planning of International Relations and Cooperation
International Office	International Cooperation and Agreements Erasmus Student Mobility Non-EU Student Exchange Ombuds office for international exchange students univie: summer/winter schools Staff Mobility for teachers, researchers and administrative staff Higher Education Projects
Student Point	General information about offered degree programmes, admission for non-exchange students, tuition fee and students with disabilities Master Access Guide
Admission Office	Admission for degree-seeking students
StudiesServiceCenters	Specific information on respective degree programmes
Center for Doctoral Studies	Welcome Center for international PhD candidates
Postgraduate Center	Continuing Education at the University of Vienna
Language Center	German Courses at all levels
Professors' Appointment Consulting Service	New professorships at the University of Vienna
Alumni Association	Virtual meeting point for graduates of the University of Vienna around the world

For further information on the university's internationalisation services,
please see <http://www.univie.ac.at/en/international/>.

Website	Contact
http://rektorat.univie.ac.at/en/rectorate	internationales.rektorat@univie.ac.at
http://international.univie.ac.at/en http://international.univie.ac.at/incoming-students/erasmus http://international.univie.ac.at/incoming-students/non-eu-student-exchange-program http://international.univie.ac.at/en/home/ombuds-office-for-international-exchange-students http://international.univie.ac.at/en/summerwinter-schools http://international.univie.ac.at/en/incoming-staff http://international.univie.ac.at/en/higher-education-projects	international.office@univie.ac.at erasmus.incoming@univie.ac.at non-eu-exchange@univie.ac.at international.office@univie.ac.at summer-winter-schools@univie.ac.at international.office@univie.ac.at international.office@univie.ac.at
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https://slw.univie.ac.at/en/about-us/studienzulassung/	Please use the online contact form.
http://ssc.univie.ac.at	Please use the contact addresses of the respective StudiesServiceCenters.
https://doktorat.univie.ac.at/en/prospective-doctoral-candidates/international-doctoral-candidates/	info.doktorat@univie.ac.at
http://www.postgraduatecenter.at/en	info@postgraduatecenter.at
http://sprachenzentrum.univie.ac.at/en	sprachenzentrum@univie.ac.at
http://neue-professuren.univie.ac.at/en	berufungsservice@univie.ac.at
http://alumnimap.univie.ac.at	office.alumni@univie.ac.at



At the University of Vienna with the Non-EU Teaching Mobility Programme

Prof. Richard Weber is an Associate Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering at the University of Chile and was teaching at the University of Vienna as part of the Non-EU-Teaching Programme. In an interview he talked about his experience of the programme.



What motivated you to take part in the Non-EU Teaching Mobility Programme?

Firstly the reputation of the University of Vienna and the opportunity to teach at a highly regarded institution. Of course, the city of Vienna and its attractions also played a significant part.

You were teaching as a visiting professor in the field of Information Technology on the topic of “Applied Social Network Analysis”. What was your experience with the students at the University of Vienna like?

The students on my course all had different educational backgrounds, but they all had a very solid grounding in the fields of mathematics, IT and economics. I could see that there was a high level of interest in the topics on my course. Another thing that made a positive impression on me was the international mix.

What added value did your Non-EU Teaching Mobility visit to the University of Vienna bring to your teaching and research? Were you able to build up more intensive research contacts?

Yes, most definitely. I was able both to reinforce existing contacts and to develop new ones. In particular, I was able to have some interesting conversations with Prof. Plant in my research field of data mining. Both the methodical work

and the various applications are very similar to our approaches. The interaction with the students also gave me a new perspective on various aspects of my lectures.

Would you recommend the programme to others?

Absolutely. The cooperation between the various teaching and research institutions was always very important. But it is precisely in times when the focus on national interests is increasing, that universities acquire an additional important role, which goes beyond teaching and learning and aims at encouraging exchange and understanding between different cultures.

I would like to thank the University of Vienna and all those involved for the opportunity I had to come and visit in particular, and in general for their far-sightedness with the Non-EU Teaching Mobility Programme.

The **Non-EU Teaching Mobility Programme** enables academics from non-EU partner universities to come to the University of Vienna for a blocked teaching assignment. Teaching staff at the University of Vienna are invited to inform their contacts at all partner universities of the University of Vienna about the programme and/or to encourage specific colleagues from abroad to apply.
international.univie.ac.at/incoming-staff



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