HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH IN AUSTRIA

Director General Barbara WEITGRUBER

January 15, 2017
Research in Austria
Austrian R&I Governance System

www.bmwfuv.gv.at
- **Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy**  
  “Academia”  
  => basic and scientific research, higher education  
  “Economy Oriented Research”  
  => research co-operation between public sector, SMEs and enterprises

- **Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology**  
  “Applied Research”  
  => industry-related research, technology development & innovation; ICT infrastructures

- **Federal Ministry of Education**  
  “Schools”  
  => primary & secondary education; University colleges of teacher education
HIGHER EDUCATION IN AUSTRIA
### Higher Education in Austria

#### Key Facts & Figures

**Higher Education Institutions**

- **22 Public Universities**
- **21 Universities of Applied Sciences**
- **12 Private Universities**
- **14 University Colleges of Teacher Education**

**Total Numbers Winter Term 2015**

- **Students**: 384,548
- **International Students**: 99,342
- **Graduates**: 59,404 (academic year 2014/15)

**Umbrella Organizations**

- **UNIKO** ("Universities Austria")
- **FHK** (Association of Austrian Universities of Applied Sciences)
- **University Colleges of Teacher Training Association of Austrian Private Universities**

**Quality Assurance:**

- **AQ Austria**

**Recognition:**

- **ENIC NARIC**

Source: BMWFW – IV/9 (Science in Austria)
Higher Education in Austria

Austrian Higher Education Area

www.bmwfw.gv.at

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of students</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 Public Universities</td>
<td>309,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Universities of Applied Sciences</td>
<td>50,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Private Universities</td>
<td>9,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 University Colleges of Teacher Education</td>
<td>15,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>384,548</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: BMWFW – SKIB, VI/3

Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy
Strategy Unit Coordination in the Field of International Relations

Source: BMWFW – SKIB, VI/3
### Higher Education in Austria

#### Characteristics

**PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES**
- Approx. 80% of students
- Independent legal entities under public law
- Full Autonomy
- State Supervision
- Performance Agreements

**UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES**
- Approx. 14% of students
- All kinds of legal entities
- Autonomy
- Accreditation
- Practice-oriented professional tertiary education
- Mixed Financing Federal Government/Provider

**PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES**
- Approx. 2% of students
- Different kinds of legal entities
- Autonomy
- Accreditation
- No general Federal Funding

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGES OF TEACHER EDUCATION**
- Approx. 4% of students
- Federal/Private Institutions
- Partial Autonomy
- Public/Private Budget
- State Supervision

Source: BMWFW – VI/7, IV/11
SCIENCE & RESEARCH IN AUSTRIA
Government policy goals

- From “Strong Innovator” to “Innovation Leader”
- 3,76% of the GDP for RTI until 2020
- More dynamism in and investment of the private sector
- From “Medium-Tech” to “High-Tech” Industry
- Focus on quality and excellence, with a special focus on basic research
Becoming an Innovation Leader

Interrelated areas

- Education System
- Basic Research & Research Infrastructure
- Innovation & Corporate Research
- Governance of the Research and Innovation System
- Funding System
Research in Austria
Institutions and Agencies

www.bmwf.w.gv.at

FURTHER RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft
- ÖSTERREICHERSCHER WISSENSCHAFTSRAT
- AUSTRIAN SCIENCE BOARD
- Institute of Science and Technology
- Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research
- Austrian Research Promotion Agency

ADVISORY BODIES FUNDING AGENCIES SERVICE POINTS
Organization

– LEARNED SOCIETY

    *Foundation of the "Kaiserliche Akademie der Wissenschaften" by Imperial Patent on 14 May 1847*

– ORGANIZATION PROMOTING INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

    *Leading non-university research institution in Austria with a strong emphasis on basic research*

– CAREER BUILDING

    *promotion of highly qualified young researchers*

- Research activities in its own research institutions
- Advisory Function (reports, expertise, statements related to research policy)
- Membership in int. scientific organizations & large-scale research projects
- Promotion of highly qualified (young) researchers with grants and awards
Achievements

- Austrian R&D expenditure 2016
  - 3.07% of GDP
  - Total amount of € 10.74 billion
- Regarding the research quota: Austria ranks among the top 3 countries within the 28 EU member states

Recent initiatives to promote R&D

- Open Innovation Strategy
- Strategy for Life Sciences and the Pharmaceutical Sector
- Austrian “European Research Area Roadmap”
- Package of measures to boost private philanthropic funding in the field of S&R
- Foundation for Innovation in Education
- Start-Up & Research Funding Package
Further Information

www.bmfw.gv.at
Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy

www.bmb.gv.at
Austrian Federal Ministry of Education

www.bmvit.gv.at
Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology

www.oead.at
Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research

www.wissenschaftsrat.ac.at
Austrian Science Board

www.rat-fte.at
Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development

www.uniko.ac.at
Universities Austria

www.fhk.ac.at
Association of Austrian Universities of Applied Sciences

www.fwf.ac.at
Austrian Science Fund

www.ffg.at
Austrian Research Promotion Agency

www.ist.ac.at
Institute of Science and Technology Austria

www.oeaw.ac.at
Austrian Academy of Sciences

www.nostrifizierung.at
ENIC NARIC

www.aq.ac.at
Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria

www.openinnovation.gv.at/
Open Innovation Strategy

www.lbg.ac.at
Ludwig Boltzmann Association

www.privatuniversitaeten.at
Association of Austrian Private Universities
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Barbara Weitgruber
Director General for Scientific Research & International Relations, Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy

barbara.weitgruber@bmwfw.gv.at