

MOMENT OF TRUTH



European
Forum
Alpbach
2024

PROGRAMME DRAFT

EFA24

17.08.2024 TO 30.08.2024

Status: 11 July 2024

The location may be subject to change, please check again at short notice.

For the whole EFA24 programme please visit: www.alpbach.org

17 August 2024 08:30 - 13:00 | Stage | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Euregio Young Researcher Award 2024

Hosted by: Euregio

Six finalists from different scientific disciplines will present their high-level research work on the topic of artificial intelligence (AI). With various research questions ranging from the topics of general aspects of AI to ethical and administrative issues, the winners will be awarded by the jury from the Euregio Universities at the evening event.

17 August 2024 08:30 - 13:00 | Stage | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Euregio Innovation Award 2024

Hosted by: EUREGIO

During the Euregio Days, enterprises from the Euregio region Tyrol/South Tyrol/Trentino; will present their innovative products, processes and services concerning the field of artificial intelligence. The best projects are selected by a top-level jury led by Josef Margreiter and will be awarded at the evening event.

18 August 2024 09:00 - 09:45 | Ritual | Kirche

Holy Mass

18 August 2024 11:15 - 12:45 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Tyrol Day 2024: Euregio Summit on Artificial Intelligence

The people of the Tyrol/South Tyrol/Trentino Euroregion gather in Alpbach. Outstanding research and innovation will be awarded. The “Tyrol Day” marks a festive highlight.

18 August 2024 18:00 - 19:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Welcome of Scholarship Holders

The European Forum Alpbach 2024 kick-off for scholarship holders and participants of the Alpbach Seminars: Meet your peers, see an art performance and inform yourself about everything you need to know to successfully navigate through the days ahead.

Goldsworthy, Alison; President; Accord; Speaker

Treichl, Andreas; President; European Forum Alpbach; Speaker

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

Geopolitical Shifts and the Global South: Navigating a New Risk-Reward Paradigm

Track: SEM, Security

The seminar will delve into current global crises, from wars to geopolitical struggles, and examine the pivotal role of the Global South with a special focus on Africa. It will further look at Europe's role, in this new geopolitical setting. The participants unpack strategies to navigate the shifting geopolitical terrain for a balanced future.

Gopaldas, Ronak; Director; Signal Risk; Seminar Chair

Tchakarova, Velina; Founder; FACE For A Conscious Experience; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Hayek-Saal

European Security and the Struggle for Technological Sovereignty

Track: SEM, Security

Progress in emerging and disruptive technologies (EDTs) is enabling a transformation of security and the democratisation of technological tools of war for which Europeans are unprepared. The seminar investigates how Europeans can consolidate defence innovation in EDTs, reduce critical dependencies, and re-shore critical supply chains in a multipolar world. A tabletop exercise allows participants to explore how current gaps in technological sovereignty practically affect European security and defence.

Burton, Joe; Professor of International Security; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

Soare, Simona; Professor of Strategy and Technology; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 1

The Past, Present and Future of Economic Development and Global Inequalities

Track: SEM, Finance

The empirical evidence about global economic development trends are assessed with novel data sources. Furthermore, participants will be exposed to research frontier methods aimed at addressing the driving factors of global economic development and inequalities as well as future prospects and the challenges posed by climate change, automation, and geopolitical tensions.

Andrijevic, Marina; Research Scholar; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis; Seminar Chair

Crespo-Cuaresma, Jesus; Professor of Economics; Vienna University of Economics and Business; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 2

The Indo-Pacific: Free, Open, Prosperous, Secure, and Resilient – for Whom?

Track: SEM, Security

The Indo-Pacific region stands for global trade routes, technological leadership, economic vibrancy, but also territorial disputes and regional turmoil – all with potential impact on Europe. The same is true for China's heightening competition with the US, or India's vying for leadership in the Global South. Meanwhile, Japan and South Korea are turning into active foreign policy and security players. Join the debate on how Europe can have a seat at the table and avoid ending up on the menu.

Kim, Duyeon; Adjunct Senior Fellow; Center for a New American Security; Seminar Chair

Reiterer, Michael; Distinguished Professor, EU-Ambassador ret.; Brussels School of Governance; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

Accelerating Green and Digital Innovation to Achieve Net-Zero

Track: SEM, Climate

The seminar will critically assess trends in green innovation, a key ingredient in all decarbonisation pathways. A specific focus will be on digitalisation, a transformative and pervasive process creating both opportunities and risks for emission reductions across all sectors and domains. Through a case study approach, participants will develop an in-depth understanding of the drivers and barriers which characterise low-carbon innovation processes and systems and explore pathways through which digitalisation impacts decarbonisation.

Verdolini, Elena; Climate economist and professor; University of Brescia; Seminar Chair

Wilson, Charlie; Professor of Energy & Climate Change; University of Oxford; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

On Financial Misbehaviours: Uncovering Underminers of Democracy

Track: SEM, Finance

Financial misbehaviours erode core democratic values: tax evasion, sanction evasion, money laundering are some examples. Looking at prevalent techniques (i. e. use of shell companies) and technologies (i. e. crypto assets) enabling these illicit activities, participants gain a comprehensive understanding of modern financial misbehaviours and develop effective countermeasures to mitigate adverse effects on democracy.

Haslhofer, Bernhard; Faculty; Complexity Science Hub; Seminar Chair

Paquet-Clouston, Masarah; Assistant Professor in Criminology; Université de Montréal; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 4

Reinventing Democracy in Europe and Beyond for Future Generations

Track: SEM, Democracy

Young people are disillusioned with democracy and participate less and less in elections. Yet they remain engaged in civic life and join demonstrations among others. How can we rejuvenate democracy by designing and embracing political innovations capable of bringing young people into the fold? Participants will gain a first-hand experience of emerging participatory mechanisms and have the chance to design new ones.

Alemanno, Alberto; Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law; HEC Paris / The Good Lobby; Seminar Chair
Pirvulescu, Corina; Co-founder; Civics International; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule Turnsaal

Innovation as an Alternative to Degrowth

Track: SEM, Finance

We live in a world of conflicting policy choices as a response to the global polycrises: degrowth or innovation. In this seminar, we will dive into the detail of the nature of the crises shaping our world, the levers that policy makers have, to shape the scale of these crises, and the multiple dimensions of the solutions to overcome them through innovation. From Silicon Savannah to Silicon Valley, this seminar will analyse the innovation tools and frameworks that policymakers have at their disposal to successfully transition to a post-globalisation world.

Ambole, Amollo; Development and Innovation expert; Amollo.com; Seminar Chair
O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair
Stoisser, Hans; Managing Director; Ecotec GmbH; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Climate Action and Democracy

Track: SEM, Climate

Explore the multifaceted relationship between climate action and democracy across Europe. We cover the current state of climate action, complexities introduced by rising populism, and the role of social media – among others. A key focus is on the potential of participatory design as a tool to enhance democratic engagement in climate action, proposing methods to directly involve citizens in policy-making processes.

Creutzig, Felix; Professor; MCC Berlin; Seminar Chair
Kolleck, Nina; W3 Professor; University of Potsdam; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

The Unfolding Space Revolution: Space for Prosperity, Peace and Future Generations

Track: SEM, Security

Civil and military space assets and services critically contribute to solutions in climate change, national security, mobility, energy, or connectivity. Those contributions will rapidly become even more pervasive, and the European space sector must support the continent in increasing its status as a strong and strategically autonomous partner to the world. Participants explore the role of space in all four of EFA24's thematic tracks: Security, democracy, climate, finance and economy.

Friedling, Michel; Seminar Chair

Liebig, Volker; University Professor and former ESA director for Earth Observation Programmes; Institute for Space Systems, University of Stuttgart; Seminar Chair

Möller, Hermann Ludwig; Director; European Space Policy Institute (ESPI); Seminar Chair

O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

Engaging AI for Democracy and Social Good

Track: SEM, Democracy

Participants explore the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on societies and geopolitics, its role in the design of non-discriminatory processes, and the promotion of inclusive democracy. Through participatory and speculative design approaches, these interactive sessions will seek alternative visions for effectively using AI for social good. Furthermore, the necessary capabilities, skills, and strategies to achieve this vision will be discussed.

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Mayer, Katja; Elise Richter Fellow; University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Müller-Birn, Claudia; Professor; Freie Universität Berlin; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule 1. Stock EDV Saal

Accelerating Climate Action through Science and Partnerships

Track: SEM, Climate

Discuss climate change with a focus on current trends and future outlooks, the role of the energy transition, and its opportunities for international partnerships. We will highlight recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, debunk climate science myths, and outline key mitigation strategies. Participants will further explore challenges of supply chain resilience and be introduced to climate change impacts on the Global South.

Reiss, Karin; Program Manager; United Nations Industrial Development Organisation - UNIDO; Seminar Chair

Urge-Vorsatz, Diana; Professor / Vice Chair; CEU / IPCC; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Rogger-Saal

Anything Goes? Truth and Progress in Science and Society

Track: SEM, Democracy

Discuss provocative ideas and challenge conventional views on truth and scientific change in a free society. Are the ideas of truth and reason able to navigate us through the sea of alternatives and contradicting information? Is there one truth or many? Is there a crisis of knowledge? How real is reality? Can relativism explain different cultures and societies? What determines the quest for knowledge in science: "Trial and Error" or "Anything Goes"?

Mitterer, Josef; Professor; University Klagenfurt; Seminar Chair

Neges, Katharina; Senior Scientist; Graz University of Technology, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | Mittelschule Vorplatz

Food for Thought

"Food for Thought" takes the form of an open space following the concept of a "Speaker's Corner", where anyone is invited to suggest a topic of their choice and facilitate a discussion on it. Anyone – seminar chairs, distinguished visitors, scholarship holders, villagers, EFA staff and others – can host a presentation. We look forward to lively discussions!

//INFO: Please inform the responsible EFA team member in the morning of the day you're planning to speak.

19 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Open Your Mind: Share your EFA story

In this session scholarship holders are invited to co-author a book on the EFA24 annual theme: They will be guided to write their story on the Alpbach Seminars, their personal Moment of Truth and other reflections.

Giesswein, Martin; Faculty Member; WU Executive Academy; Speaker

Höllbacher, Lisa; Ceo; Unbuzz; Speaker

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Feuerwehrhaus

Negotiation Skills

Track: SEM

Negotiation is a skill you use in every sphere of life. Participants learn to negotiate in both competitive and collaborative situations. Practical exercises help identify one's own negotiation style and strategies to overcome difficulties like imbalance of power and mental biases. Learn to manage any negotiation challenges across different spheres of personal and professional life.

Giner-Reichl, Irene; EFA-Council Chairperson; EFA; Seminar Chair

Mehta, Kandarp; Senior Lecturer; IESE Business School; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule 1. Stock EDV Saal

Creative Writing: What is Your Truth?

Track: ART, SEM

We use creative writing as a means to experiment with language, to develop confidence, investigate verbal expression, and find fluidity with words. Participants will learn how to worry less about the “right way” of saying something but how to write about what matters to them individually. Most importantly they will realise the value of discovery through play and understand how creative language is essential in expressing ideas in a troubled world.

English, Lucy; Professor; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

Lane-McElroy, Charley; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

McLaughlin, Cassandra; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

A Place of Safety

Track: ART, SEM

Many actors get introduced to theatre by their parents sending them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; and so, it happens that they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. They will say that right there, there is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

AI Tools as Digital Butlers: Responsible Use and Practical Applications

Track: SEM

The seminar offers an in-depth insight into the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini or iask.ai. It illustrates how these tools can act as digital assistants. Experimental exercises demonstrate how AI can be used practically, while discussions and reflections deepen the understanding of the limitations and potentials. The participants will discover ways to use AI technologies consciously and effectively during their studies and in daily life.

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Herczeg, Petra; Programme Director and Senior Lecturer; Department of Communication, University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Scholl, Armin; Professor; Department of Communication, University of Münster, Germany; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Hayek-Saal

Unravelling Reality: Journalistic Methods for Truth Seeking

Track: SEM

In this seminar participants delve into the journalistic mindset and techniques to explore the complexity of truth and of our relationship with reality. Participants will be introduced to the basics of journalism through practical exercises and embark on a journey to uncover the multifaceted nature of truth through mastering interview techniques, posing challenging questions, practising empathetic listening, and understanding diverse perspectives.

Leppäjärvi, Anne; Journalism Degree Director, Journalist; Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences; Seminar Chair

Munk, Veronika; Director of Innovation and New Markets; Dennik N; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Creating an Ensemble

Track: ART, SEM

Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß Turnsaal

Woodland Dialogues: Exploring Collaboration through Movement and Sound

Track: ART, SEM

Woodland Dialogues is an immersive project in the Alpbach forest exploring the collaborative creation of dance and music. Participants will draw inspiration from nature to craft soundscapes and choreography, reflecting unity and individuality. The seminar culminates in a performance showcasing the collaborative art formed throughout the week.

Reider, Florian; Pianist; Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Shirzadeh, Wieda; dancer, dance teacher, choreographer; Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

Fashion in a Nutshell: Transparency, Sustainability, and Regulations

Track: ART, SEM

The fashion industry is going through significant changes: The consumers demand transparency, brands reinvent themselves with sustainability campaigns and policy changes bring a range of new regulations that will have an impact on business logistics and operations. The participants take a journey through the complex world of fashion with a hands-on approach through class discussions, upcycling sessions and a visit to a local supplier.

Rachimova, Sabinna; Founder, Lecturer, Consultant; Fashion Revolution Austria, SABINNA; Seminar Chair
Schratzberger, Nadine; Co-Founder; Fashion Revolution Austria; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Finance Unleashed: Innovate, Invest, Inspire

Track: SEM, Finance

Step into Finance Unleashed, an engaging financial simulation game that offers a hands-on approach to investing and wealth management. Participate in real-time decision-making scenarios, guided by insights from leading financial experts. This interactive seminar emphasises the essential role of financial education in crafting a sustainable and prosperous future and in navigating the complexities of the financial world with confidence.

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Bayer, Daniel; CEO; Fingu GmbH; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar

Line of Departure - Leadership & Decision

Track: SEM

In military terms, the line of departure is where the attack begins and when quick, yet considered decisions and flexible, yet firm leadership are crucial. The seminar confronts the participants with challenging situations that require efficient decision-making within a group and solutions that are immediately put into action. Participants will not only gain practical and theoretical leadership knowledge but also discover new sides to their personality and skills. //INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring comfortable clothing and steady footwear.

Gstrein, Alexander; Advisor; Ministry of Defence; Seminar Chair

Schiller, Alexander; Senior Training Officer for Leadership and training methodology; Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

Staying Sane in a Smart World: Positive Psychology & Resilience

Track: SEM

Digitalisation of work offers many opportunities, but also downsides like a blurred line between work and leisure. This seminar starts from the neurobiology of (social) media use and expands to the known and unknown of the impact on mental health. Asking how one can use its potentials rather than succumb to the threats, it provides tools for selfcare and aims to develop a personalised model for dealing with the impact of media use.

Narbeshuber, Esther; Managing Director; Mindlead Institut GmbH; Seminar Chair

Narbeshuber, Johannes; CEO; Trigon Development Consultants; Seminar Chair

Plener, Paul; Head of the Dept. of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Medical University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule Turnsaal

Across Divides - Depolarisation of Communication

Track: SEM, Democracy

Polarisation is one of the most pressing issues of our time. It undermines our ability to collaborate in addressing various contemporary challenges. Different approaches to manage difficult conversations on polarising topics are being explored interactively. Based on practical tools and exercises, the seminar will equip participants with the skills to promote healthy conflict resolution.

Goldsworthy, Alison; President; Accord; Seminar Chair

Nenadovic, Maja; Co-founder; REFLECTORY; Seminar Chair

19 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

Innovation and Green Changemaking

Track: SEM, Climate

The challenge of innovation and working with the future is that neither the radically new nor the future can be known in advance. This seminar empowers participants with innovative tools and frameworks to develop a fused approach to creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship that is strategically poised to have impact across diverse terrains – from ecology to politics to business.

Frasca, Jason; Co-Founder; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

Kerr, Iain; Founding Co-Director; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

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Verdolini, Elena; Climate economist and professor; University of Brescia; Seminar Chair

Wilson, Charlie; Professor of Energy & Climate Change; University of Oxford; Seminar Chair

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Reinventing Democracy in Europe and Beyond for Future Generations

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Mitterer, Josef; Professor; University Klagenfurt; Seminar Chair

Neges, Katharina; Senior Scientist; Graz University of Technology, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz; Seminar Chair

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The Indo-Pacific: Free, Open, Prosperous, Secure, and Resilient – for Whom?

Track: SEM, Security

The Indo-Pacific region stands for global trade routes, technological leadership, economic vibrancy, but also territorial disputes and regional turmoil – all with potential impact on Europe. The same is true for China's heightening competition with the US, or India's vying for leadership in the Global South. Meanwhile, Japan and South Korea are turning into active foreign policy and security players. Join the debate on how Europe can have a seat at the table and avoid ending up on the menu.

Kim, Duyeon; Adjunct Senior Fellow; Center for a New American Security; Seminar Chair

Reiterer, Michael; Distinguished Professor, EU-Ambassador ret.; Brussels School of Governance; Seminar Chair

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20 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Open Your Mind: Inhabit the Future

In an [election campaign](#) the EFA24 invites participants to vote on an optimistic, long-term vision of the future, reclaiming their power of imagination and taking a first step towards a better tomorrow. Join this session and get involved.

Danek, Theodora; Content Manager Arts and Culture, European Forum Alpbach; Speaker

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Feuerwehrhaus

Negotiation Skills

Track: SEM

Negotiation is a skill you use in every sphere of life. Participants learn to negotiate in both competitive and collaborative situations. Practical exercises help identify one’s own negotiation style and strategies to overcome difficulties like imbalance of power and mental biases. Learn to manage any negotiation challenges across different spheres of personal and professional life.

Giner-Reichl, Irene; EFA-Council Chairperson; EFA; Seminar Chair
Mehta, Kandarp; Senior Lecturer; IESE Business School; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß Turnsaal

Woodland Dialogues: Exploring Collaboration through Movement and Sound

Track: ART, SEM

Woodland Dialogues is an immersive project in the Alpbach forest exploring the collaborative creation of dance and music. Participants will draw inspiration from nature to craft soundscapes and choreography, reflecting unity and individuality. The seminar culminates in a performance showcasing the collaborative art formed throughout the week.

Reider, Florian; Pianist; Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna; Seminar Chair
Shirzadeh, Wieda; dancer, dance teacher, choreographer; Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule Turnsaal

Across Divides - Depolarisation of Communication

Track: SEM, Democracy

Polarisation is one of the most pressing issues of our time. It undermines our ability to collaborate in addressing various contemporary challenges. Different approaches to manage difficult conversations on polarising topics are being explored interactively. Based on practical tools and exercises, the seminar will equip participants with the skills to promote healthy conflict resolution.

Goldsworthy, Alison; President; Accord; Seminar Chair

Nenadovic, Maja; Co-founder; REFLECTORY; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Hayek-Saal

Unravelling Reality: Journalistic Methods for Truth Seeking

Track: SEM

In this seminar participants delve into the journalistic mindset and techniques to explore the complexity of truth and of our relationship with reality. Participants will be introduced to the basics of journalism through practical exercises and embark on a journey to uncover the multifaceted nature of truth through mastering interview techniques, posing challenging questions, practising empathetic listening, and understanding diverse perspectives.

Leppäjärvi, Anne; Journalism Degree Director, Journalist; Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences; Seminar Chair

Munk, Veronika; Director of Innovation and New Markets; Denník N; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

Fashion in a Nutshell: Transparency, Sustainability, and Regulations

Track: ART, SEM

The fashion industry is going through significant changes: The consumers demand transparency, brands reinvent themselves with sustainability campaigns and policy changes bring a range of new regulations that will have an impact on business logistics and operations. The participants take a journey through the complex world of fashion with a hands-on approach through class discussions, upcycling sessions and a visit to a local supplier.

Rachimova, Sabinna; Founder, Lecturer, Consultant; Fashion Revolution Austria, SABINNA; Seminar Chair

Schratzberger, Nadine; Co-Founder; Fashion Revolution Austria; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

Innovation and Green Changemaking

Track: SEM, Climate

The challenge of innovation and working with the future is that neither the radically new nor the future can be known in advance. This seminar empowers participants with innovative tools and frameworks to develop a fused approach to creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship that is strategically poised to have impact across diverse terrains – from ecology to politics to business.

Frasca, Jason; Co-Founder; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

Kerr, Iain; Founding Co-Director; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule 1. Stock EDV Saal

Creative Writing: What is Your Truth?

Track: ART, SEM

We use creative writing as a means to experiment with language, to develop confidence, investigate verbal expression, and find fluidity with words. Participants will learn how to worry less about the “right way” of saying something but how to write about what matters to them individually. Most importantly they will realise the value of discovery through play and understand how creative language is essential in expressing ideas in a troubled world.

English, Lucy; Professor; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

Lane-McElroy, Charley; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

McLaughlin, Cassandra; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

AI Tools as Digital Butlers: Responsible Use and Practical Applications

Track: SEM

The seminar offers an in-depth insight into the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini or iask.ai. It illustrates how these tools can act as digital assistants. Experimental exercises demonstrate how AI can be used practically, while discussions and reflections deepen the understanding of the limitations and potentials. The participants will discover ways to use AI technologies consciously and effectively during their studies and in daily life.

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Herczeg, Petra; Programme Director and Senior Lecturer; Department of Communication, University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Scholl, Armin; Professor; Department of Communication, University of Münster, Germany; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Finance Unleashed: Innovate, Invest, Inspire

Track: SEM, Finance

Step into Finance Unleashed, an engaging financial simulation game that offers a hands-on approach to investing and wealth management. Participate in real-time decision-making scenarios, guided by insights from leading financial experts. This interactive seminar emphasises the essential role of financial education in crafting a sustainable and prosperous future and in navigating the complexities of the financial world with confidence.

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Bayer, Daniel; CEO; Fingu GmbH; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

A Place of Safety

Track: ART, SEM

Many actors get introduced to theatre by their parents sending them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; and so, it happens that they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. They will say that right there, there is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

Staying Sane in a Smart World: Positive Psychology & Resilience

Track: SEM

Digitalisation of work offers many opportunities, but also downsides like a blurred line between work and leisure. This seminar starts from the neurobiology of (social) media use and expands to the known and unknown of the impact on mental health. Asking how one can use its potentials rather than succumb to the threats, it provides tools for selfcare and aims to develop a personalised model for dealing with the impact of media use.

Narbeshuber, Esther; Managing Director; Mindlead Institut GmbH; Seminar Chair

Narbeshuber, Johannes; CEO; Trigon Development Consultants; Seminar Chair

Plener, Paul; Head of the Dept. of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Medical University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Creating an Ensemble

Track: ART, SEM

Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

20 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

Line of Departure - Leadership & Decision

Track: SEM

In military terms, the line of departure is where the attack begins and when quick, yet considered decisions and flexible, yet firm leadership are crucial. The seminar confronts the participants with challenging situations that require efficient decision-making within a group and solutions that are immediately put into action. Participants will not only gain practical and theoretical leadership knowledge but also discover new sides to their personality and skills. //INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring comfortable clothing and steady footwear.

Gstrein, Alexander; Advisor; Ministry of Defence; Seminar Chair

Schiller, Alexander; Senior Training Officer for Leadership and training methodology; Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

Engaging AI for Democracy and Social Good

Track: SEM, Democracy

Participants explore the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on societies and geopolitics, its role in the design of non-discriminatory processes, and the promotion of inclusive democracy. Through participatory and speculative design approaches, these interactive sessions will seek alternative visions for effectively using AI for social good. Furthermore, the necessary capabilities, skills, and strategies to achieve this vision will be discussed.

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Mayer, Katja; Elise Richter Fellow; University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Müller-Birn, Claudia; Professor; Freie Universität Berlin; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Hayek-Saal

European Security and the Struggle for Technological Sovereignty

Track: SEM, Security

Progress in emerging and disruptive technologies (EDTs) is enabling a transformation of security and the democratisation of technological tools of war for which Europeans are unprepared. The seminar investigates how Europeans can consolidate defence innovation in EDTs, reduce critical dependencies, and re-shore critical supply chains in a multipolar world. A tabletop exercise allows participants to explore how current gaps in technological sovereignty practically affect European security and defence.

Burton, Joe; Professor of International Security; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

Soare, Simona; Professor of Strategy and Technology; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

Accelerating Green and Digital Innovation to Achieve Net-Zero

Track: SEM, Climate

The seminar will critically assess trends in green innovation, a key ingredient in all decarbonisation pathways. A specific focus will be on digitalisation, a transformative and pervasive process creating both opportunities and risks for emission reductions across all sectors and domains. Through a case study approach, participants will develop an in-depth understanding of the drivers and barriers which characterise low-carbon innovation processes and systems and explore pathways through which digitalisation impacts decarbonisation.

Verdolini, Elena; Climate economist and professor; University of Brescia; Seminar Chair

Wilson, Charlie; Professor of Energy & Climate Change; University of Oxford; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 4

Reinventing Democracy in Europe and Beyond for Future Generations

Track: SEM, Democracy

Young people are disillusioned with democracy and participate less and less in elections. Yet they remain engaged in civic life and join demonstrations among others. How can we rejuvenate democracy by designing and embracing political innovations capable of bringing young people into the fold? Participants will gain a first-hand experience of emerging participatory mechanisms and have the chance to design new ones.

Alemanno, Alberto; Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law; HEC Paris / The Good Lobby; Seminar Chair

Pirvulescu, Corina; Co-founder; Civics International; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Rogger-Saal

Anything Goes? Truth and Progress in Science and Society

Track: SEM, Democracy

Discuss provocative ideas and challenge conventional views on truth and scientific change in a free society. Are the ideas of truth and reason able to navigate us through the sea of alternatives and contradicting information? Is there one truth or many? Is there a crisis of knowledge? How real is reality? Can relativism explain different cultures and societies? What determines the quest for knowledge in science: "Trial and Error" or "Anything Goes"?

Mitterer, Josef; Professor; University Klagenfurt; Seminar Chair

Neges, Katharina; Senior Scientist; Graz University of Technology, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

The Unfolding Space Revolution: Space for Prosperity, Peace and Future Generations

Track: SEM, Security

Civil and military space assets and services critically contribute to solutions in climate change, national security, mobility, energy, or connectivity. Those contributions will rapidly become even more pervasive, and the European space sector must support the continent in increasing its status as a strong and strategically autonomous partner to the world. Participants explore the role of space in all four of EFA24's thematic tracks: Security, democracy, climate, finance and economy.

Friedling, Michel; Seminar Chair

Liebig, Volker; University Professor and former ESA director for Earth Observation Programmes; Institute for Space Systems, University of Stuttgart; Seminar Chair

Möller, Hermann Ludwig; Director; European Space Policy Institute (ESPI); Seminar Chair

O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

Geopolitical Shifts and the Global South: Navigating a New Risk-Reward Paradigm

Track: SEM, Security

The seminar will delve into current global crises, from wars to geopolitical struggles, and examine the pivotal role of the Global South with a special focus on Africa. It will further look at Europe's role, in this new geopolitical setting. The participants unpack strategies to navigate the shifting geopolitical terrain for a balanced future.

Gopaldas, Ronak; Director; Signal Risk; Seminar Chair

Tchakarova, Velina; Founder; FACE For A Conscious Experience; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 1

The Past, Present and Future of Economic Development and Global Inequalities

Track: SEM, Finance

The empirical evidence about global economic development trends are assessed with novel data sources. Furthermore, participants will be exposed to research frontier methods aimed at addressing the driving factors of global economic development and inequalities as well as future prospects and the challenges posed by climate change, automation, and geopolitical tensions.

Andrijevic, Marina; Research Scholar; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis; Seminar Chair

Crespo-Cuaresma, Jesus; Professor of Economics; Vienna University of Economics and Business; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule Turnsaal

Innovation as an Alternative to Degrowth

Track: SEM, Finance

We live in a world of conflicting policy choices as a response to the global polycrises: degrowth or innovation. In this seminar, we will dive into the detail of the nature of the crises shaping our world, the levers that policy makers have, to shape the scale of these crises, and the multiple dimensions of the solutions to overcome them through innovation. From Silicon Savannah to Silicon Valley, this seminar will analyse the innovation tools and frameworks that policymakers have at their disposal to successfully transition to a post-globalisation world.

Ambole, Amollo; Development and Innovation expert; Amollo.com; Seminar Chair

O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair

Stoisser, Hans; Managing Director; Ecotec GmbH; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

On Financial Misbehaviours: Uncovering Underminers of Democracy

Track: SEM, Finance

Financial misbehaviours erode core democratic values: tax evasion, sanction evasion, money laundering are some examples. Looking at prevalent techniques (i. e. use of shell companies) and technologies (i. e. crypto assets) enabling these illicit activities, participants gain a comprehensive understanding of modern financial misbehaviours and develop effective countermeasures to mitigate adverse effects on democracy.

Haslhofer, Bernhard; Faculty; Complexity Science Hub; Seminar Chair

Paquet-Clouston, Masarah; Assistant Professor in Criminology; Université de Montréal; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule 1. Stock EDV Saal

Accelerating Climate Action through Science and Partnerships

Track: SEM, Climate

Discuss climate change with a focus on current trends and future outlooks, the role of the energy transition, and its opportunities for international partnerships. We will highlight recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, debunk climate science myths, and outline key mitigation strategies. Participants will further explore challenges of supply chain resilience and be introduced to climate change impacts on the Global South.

Reiss, Karin; Program Manager; United Nations Industrial Development Organisation - UNIDO; Seminar Chair

Urge-Vorsatz, Diana; Professor / Vice Chair; CEU / IPCC; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 2

The Indo-Pacific: Free, Open, Prosperous, Secure, and Resilient – for Whom?

Track: SEM, Security

The Indo-Pacific region stands for global trade routes, technological leadership, economic vibrancy, but also territorial disputes and regional turmoil – all with potential impact on Europe. The same is true for China's heightening competition with the US, or India's vying for leadership in the Global South. Meanwhile, Japan and South Korea are turning into active foreign policy and security players. Join the debate on how Europe can have a seat at the table and avoid ending up on the menu.

Kim, Duyeon; Adjunct Senior Fellow; Center for a New American Security; Seminar Chair

Reiterer, Michael; Distinguished Professor, EU-Ambassador ret.; Brussels School of Governance; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Climate Action and Democracy

Track: SEM, Climate

Explore the multifaceted relationship between climate action and democracy across Europe. We cover the current state of climate action, complexities introduced by rising populism, and the role of social media – among others. A key focus is on the potential of participatory design as a tool to enhance democratic engagement in climate action, proposing methods to directly involve citizens in policy-making processes.

Creutzig, Felix; Professor; MCC Berlin; Seminar Chair

Kolleck, Nina; W3 Professor; University of Potsdam; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | Mittelschule Vorplatz

Food for Thought

“Food for Thought” takes the form of an open space following the concept of a “Speaker’s Corner”, where anyone is invited to suggest a topic of their choice and facilitate a discussion on it. Anyone – seminar chairs, distinguished visitors, scholarship holders, villagers, EFA staff and others – can host a presentation. We look forward to lively discussions!

//INFO: Please inform the responsible EFA team member in the morning of the day you’re planning to speak.

21 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Open Your Mind: Managing Yourself: How to Keep Focused in Stressful Situations.

In this practical exercise participants will learn, based on their own capabilities, methods of how to concentrate on the important issues when it is needed most and despite times of manifold distraction.

Gstrein, Alexander; Advisor; Ministry of Defence; Speaker

21 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Feuerwehrhaus

Negotiation Skills

Track: SEM

Negotiation is a skill you use in every sphere of life. Participants learn to negotiate in both competitive and collaborative situations. Practical exercises help identify one's own negotiation style and strategies to overcome difficulties like imbalance of power and mental biases. Learn to manage any negotiation challenges across different spheres of personal and professional life.

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Mehta, Kandarp; Senior Lecturer; IESE Business School; Seminar Chair

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Track: ART, SEM

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Track: SEM, Democracy

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21 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

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Track: ART, SEM

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Rachimova, Sabinna; Founder, Lecturer, Consultant; Fashion Revolution Austria, SABINNA; Seminar Chair
Schratzberger, Nadine; Co-Founder; Fashion Revolution Austria; Seminar Chair

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Track: SEM, Climate

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English, Lucy; Professor; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair
Lane-McElroy, Charley; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair
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Scholl, Armin; Professor; Department of Communication, University of Münster, Germany; Seminar Chair

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Bayer, Daniel; CEO; Fingu GmbH; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

A Place of Safety

Track: ART, SEM

Many actors get introduced to theatre by their parents sending them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; and so, it happens that they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. They will say that right there, there is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

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Track: SEM

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Narbeshuber, Johannes; CEO; Trigon Development Consultants; Seminar Chair

Plener, Paul; Head of the Dept. of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Medical University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

21 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Creating an Ensemble

Track: ART, SEM

Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

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Line of Departure - Leadership & Decision

Track: SEM

In military terms, the line of departure is where the attack begins and when quick, yet considered decisions and flexible, yet firm leadership are crucial. The seminar confronts the participants with challenging situations that require efficient decision-making within a group and solutions that are immediately put into action. Participants will not only gain practical and theoretical leadership knowledge but also discover new sides to their personality and skills. //INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring comfortable clothing and steady footwear.

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Schiller, Alexander; Senior Training Officer for Leadership and training methodology; Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

Engaging AI for Democracy and Social Good

Track: SEM, Democracy

Participants explore the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on societies and geopolitics, its role in the design of non-discriminatory processes, and the promotion of inclusive democracy. Through participatory and speculative design approaches, these interactive sessions will seek alternative visions for effectively using AI for social good. Furthermore, the necessary capabilities, skills, and strategies to achieve this vision will be discussed.

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Mayer, Katja; Elise Richter Fellow; University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Müller-Birn, Claudia; Professor; Freie Universität Berlin; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Hayek-Saal

European Security and the Struggle for Technological Sovereignty

Track: SEM, Security

Progress in emerging and disruptive technologies (EDTs) is enabling a transformation of security and the democratisation of technological tools of war for which Europeans are unprepared. The seminar investigates how Europeans can consolidate defence innovation in EDTs, reduce critical dependencies, and re-shore critical supply chains in a multipolar world. A tabletop exercise allows participants to explore how current gaps in technological sovereignty practically affect European security and defence.

Burton, Joe; Professor of International Security; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

Soare, Simona; Professor of Strategy and Technology; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

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Track: SEM, Climate

The seminar will critically assess trends in green innovation, a key ingredient in all decarbonisation pathways. A specific focus will be on digitalisation, a transformative and pervasive process creating both opportunities and risks for emission reductions across all sectors and domains. Through a case study approach, participants will develop an in-depth understanding of the drivers and barriers which characterise low-carbon innovation processes and systems and explore pathways through which digitalisation impacts decarbonisation.

Verdolini, Elena; Climate economist and professor; University of Brescia; Seminar Chair

Wilson, Charlie; Professor of Energy & Climate Change; University of Oxford; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 4

Reinventing Democracy in Europe and Beyond for Future Generations

Track: SEM, Democracy

Young people are disillusioned with democracy and participate less and less in elections. Yet they remain engaged in civic life and join demonstrations among others. How can we rejuvenate democracy by designing and embracing political innovations capable of bringing young people into the fold? Participants will gain a first-hand experience of emerging participatory mechanisms and have the chance to design new ones.

Alemanno, Alberto; Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law; HEC Paris / The Good Lobby; Seminar Chair
Pirvulescu, Corina; Co-founder; Civics International; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Rogger-Saal

Anything Goes? Truth and Progress in Science and Society

Track: SEM, Democracy

Discuss provocative ideas and challenge conventional views on truth and scientific change in a free society. Are the ideas of truth and reason able to navigate us through the sea of alternatives and contradicting information? Is there one truth or many? Is there a crisis of knowledge? How real is reality? Can relativism explain different cultures and societies? What determines the quest for knowledge in science: "Trial and Error" or "Anything Goes"?

Mitterer, Josef; Professor; University Klagenfurt; Seminar Chair
Neges, Katharina; Senior Scientist; Graz University of Technology, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

The Unfolding Space Revolution: Space for Prosperity, Peace and Future Generations

Track: SEM, Security

Civil and military space assets and services critically contribute to solutions in climate change, national security, mobility, energy, or connectivity. Those contributions will rapidly become even more pervasive, and the European space sector must support the continent in increasing its status as a strong and strategically autonomous partner to the world. Participants explore the role of space in all four of EFA24's thematic tracks: Security, democracy, climate, finance and economy.

Friedling, Michel; Seminar Chair
Liebig, Volker; University Professor and former ESA director for Earth Observation Programmes; Institute for Space Systems, University of Stuttgart; Seminar Chair
Möller, Hermann Ludwig; Director; European Space Policy Institute (ESPI); Seminar Chair
O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

Geopolitical Shifts and the Global South: Navigating a New Risk-Reward Paradigm

Track: SEM, Security

The seminar will delve into current global crises, from wars to geopolitical struggles, and examine the pivotal role of the Global South with a special focus on Africa. It will further look at Europe's role, in this new geopolitical setting. The participants unpack strategies to navigate the shifting geopolitical terrain for a balanced future.

Gopaldas, Ronak; Director; Signal Risk; Seminar Chair

Tchakarova, Velina; Founder; FACE For A Conscious Experience; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 1

The Past, Present and Future of Economic Development and Global Inequalities

Track: SEM, Finance

The empirical evidence about global economic development trends are assessed with novel data sources. Furthermore, participants will be exposed to research frontier methods aimed at addressing the driving factors of global economic development and inequalities as well as future prospects and the challenges posed by climate change, automation, and geopolitical tensions.

Andrijevic, Marina; Research Scholar; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis; Seminar Chair

Crespo-Cuaresma, Jesus; Professor of Economics; Vienna University of Economics and Business; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule Turnsaal

Innovation as an Alternative to Degrowth

Track: SEM, Finance

We live in a world of conflicting policy choices as a response to the global polycrises: degrowth or innovation. In this seminar, we will dive into the detail of the nature of the crises shaping our world, the levers that policy makers have, to shape the scale of these crises, and the multiple dimensions of the solutions to overcome them through innovation. From Silicon Savannah to Silicon Valley, this seminar will analyse the innovation tools and frameworks that policymakers have at their disposal to successfully transition to a post-globalisation world.

Ambale, Amollo; Development and Innovation expert; Amollo.com; Seminar Chair

O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair

Stoisser, Hans; Managing Director; Ecotec GmbH; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

On Financial Misbehaviours: Uncovering Underminers of Democracy

Track: SEM, Finance

Financial misbehaviours erode core democratic values: tax evasion, sanction evasion, money laundering are some examples. Looking at prevalent techniques (i. e. use of shell companies) and technologies (i. e. crypto assets) enabling these illicit activities, participants gain a comprehensive understanding of modern financial misbehaviours and develop effective countermeasures to mitigate adverse effects on democracy.

Haslhofer, Bernhard; Faculty; Complexity Science Hub; Seminar Chair

Paquet-Clouston, Masarah; Assistant Professor in Criminology; Université de Montréal; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule 1. Stock EDV Saal

Accelerating Climate Action through Science and Partnerships

Track: SEM, Climate

Discuss climate change with a focus on current trends and future outlooks, the role of the energy transition, and its opportunities for international partnerships. We will highlight recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, debunk climate science myths, and outline key mitigation strategies. Participants will further explore challenges of supply chain resilience and be introduced to climate change impacts on the Global South.

Reiss, Karin; Program Manager; United Nations Industrial Development Organisation - UNIDO; Seminar Chair

Urge-Vorsatz, Diana; Professor / Vice Chair; CEU / IPCC; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 2

The Indo-Pacific: Free, Open, Prosperous, Secure, and Resilient – for Whom?

Track: SEM, Security

The Indo-Pacific region stands for global trade routes, technological leadership, economic vibrancy, but also territorial disputes and regional turmoil – all with potential impact on Europe. The same is true for China's heightening competition with the US, or India's vying for leadership in the Global South. Meanwhile, Japan and South Korea are turning into active foreign policy and security players. Join the debate on how Europe can have a seat at the table and avoid ending up on the menu.

Kim, Duyeon; Adjunct Senior Fellow; Center for a New American Security; Seminar Chair

Reiterer, Michael; Distinguished Professor, EU-Ambassador ret.; Brussels School of Governance; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Climate Action and Democracy

Track: SEM, Climate

Explore the multifaceted relationship between climate action and democracy across Europe. We cover the current state of climate action, complexities introduced by rising populism, and the role of social media – among others. A key focus is on the potential of participatory design as a tool to enhance democratic engagement in climate action, proposing methods to directly involve citizens in policy-making processes.

Creutzig, Felix; Professor; MCC Berlin; Seminar Chair

Kolleck, Nina; W3 Professor; University of Potsdam; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | Mittelschule Vorplatz

Food for Thought

“Food for Thought” takes the form of an open space following the concept of a “Speaker’s Corner”, where anyone is invited to suggest a topic of their choice and facilitate a discussion on it. Anyone – seminar chairs, distinguished visitors, scholarship holders, villagers, EFA staff and others – can host a presentation. We look forward to lively discussions!

//INFO: Please inform the responsible EFA team member in the morning of the day you’re planning to speak.

22 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Open Your Mind: Meditations for our Moment of Truth – Part 1

Mindfulness and compassion are often associated with wellbeing, but they can also support our sense-making and skillful action in the world. In this session, we will explore practices for resilience in challenging times and aid the process of learning and discernment.

Bristow, Jamie; Writer and Policy Expert; Inner Development Goals, Life Itself, Climate Majority Project; Speaker

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Feuerwehrhaus

Negotiation Skills

Track: SEM

Negotiation is a skill you use in every sphere of life. Participants learn to negotiate in both competitive and collaborative situations. Practical exercises help identify one’s own negotiation style and strategies to overcome difficulties like imbalance of power and mental biases. Learn to manage any negotiation challenges across different spheres of personal and professional life.

Giner-Reichl, Irene; EFA-Council Chairperson; EFA; Seminar Chair

Mehta, Kandarp; Senior Lecturer; IESE Business School; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß Turnsaal

Woodland Dialogues: Exploring Collaboration through Movement and Sound

Track: ART, SEM

Woodland Dialogues is an immersive project in the Alpbach forest exploring the collaborative creation of dance and music. Participants will draw inspiration from nature to craft soundscapes and choreography, reflecting unity and individuality. The seminar culminates in a performance showcasing the collaborative art formed throughout the week.

Reider, Florian; Pianist; Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Shirzadeh, Wieda; dancer, dance teacher, choreographer; Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule Turnsaal

Across Divides - Depolarisation of Communication

Track: SEM, Democracy

Polarisation is one of the most pressing issues of our time. It undermines our ability to collaborate in addressing various contemporary challenges. Different approaches to manage difficult conversations on polarising topics are being explored interactively. Based on practical tools and exercises, the seminar will equip participants with the skills to promote healthy conflict resolution.

Goldsworthy, Alison; President; Accord; Seminar Chair

Nenadovic, Maja; Co-founder; REFLECTORY; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Hayek-Saal

Unravelling Reality: Journalistic Methods for Truth Seeking

Track: SEM

In this seminar participants delve into the journalistic mindset and techniques to explore the complexity of truth and of our relationship with reality. Participants will be introduced to the basics of journalism through practical exercises and embark on a journey to uncover the multifaceted nature of truth through mastering interview techniques, posing challenging questions, practising empathetic listening, and understanding diverse perspectives.

Leppäjärvi, Anne; Journalism Degree Director, Journalist; Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences; Seminar Chair

Munk, Veronika; Director of Innovation and New Markets; Denník N; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

Fashion in a Nutshell: Transparency, Sustainability, and Regulations

Track: ART, SEM

The fashion industry is going through significant changes: The consumers demand transparency, brands reinvent themselves with sustainability campaigns and policy changes bring a range of new regulations that will have an impact on business logistics and operations. The participants take a journey through the complex world of fashion with a hands-on approach through class discussions, upcycling sessions and a visit to a local supplier.

Rachimova, Sabinna; Founder, Lecturer, Consultant; Fashion Revolution Austria, SABINNA; Seminar Chair

Schratzberger, Nadine; Co-Founder; Fashion Revolution Austria; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

Innovation and Green Changemaking

Track: SEM, Climate

The challenge of innovation and working with the future is that neither the radically new nor the future can be known in advance. This seminar empowers participants with innovative tools and frameworks to develop a fused approach to creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship that is strategically poised to have impact across diverse terrains – from ecology to politics to business.

Frasca, Jason; Co-Founder; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

Kerr, Iain; Founding Co-Director; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule 1. Stock EDV Saal

Creative Writing: What is Your Truth?

Track: ART, SEM

We use creative writing as a means to experiment with language, to develop confidence, investigate verbal expression, and find fluidity with words. Participants will learn how to worry less about the “right way” of saying something but how to write about what matters to them individually. Most importantly they will realise the value of discovery through play and understand how creative language is essential in expressing ideas in a troubled world.

English, Lucy; Professor; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

Lane-McElroy, Charley; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

McLaughlin, Cassandra; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

AI Tools as Digital Butlers: Responsible Use and Practical Applications

Track: SEM

The seminar offers an in-depth insight into the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini or iask.ai. It illustrates how these tools can act as digital assistants. Experimental exercises demonstrate how AI can be used practically, while discussions and reflections deepen the understanding of the limitations and potentials. The participants will discover ways to use AI technologies consciously and effectively during their studies and in daily life.

//INFO: Please make sure to bring your own laptop to the seminar. If you do not have one, please contact the EFA-Team at seminars@alpbach.org

Herczeg, Petra; Programme Director and Senior Lecturer; Department of Communication, University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Scholl, Armin; Professor; Department of Communication, University of Münster, Germany; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Finance Unleashed: Innovate, Invest, Inspire

Track: SEM, Finance

Step into Finance Unleashed, an engaging financial simulation game that offers a hands-on approach to investing and wealth management. Participate in real-time decision-making scenarios, guided by insights from leading financial experts. This interactive seminar emphasises the essential role of financial education in crafting a sustainable and prosperous future and in navigating the complexities of the financial world with confidence.

//INFO: Please make sure to bring your own laptop to the seminar. If you do not have one, please contact the EFA-Team at seminars@alpbach.org

Bayer, Daniel; CEO; Fingu GmbH; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

A Place of Safety

Track: ART, SEM

Many actors get introduced to theatre by their parents sending them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; and so, it happens that they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. They will say that right there, there is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

Staying Sane in a Smart World: Positive Psychology & Resilience

Track: SEM

Digitalisation of work offers many opportunities, but also downsides like a blurred line between work and leisure. This seminar starts from the neurobiology of (social) media use and expands to the known and unknown of the impact on mental health. Asking how one can use its potentials rather than succumb to the threats, it provides tools for selfcare and aims to develop a personalised model for dealing with the impact of media use.

Narbeshuber, Esther; Managing Director; Mindlead Institut GmbH; Seminar Chair

Narbeshuber, Johannes; CEO; Trigon Development Consultants; Seminar Chair

Plener, Paul; Head of the Dept. of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Medical University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Creating an Ensemble

Track: ART, SEM

Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

Line of Departure - Leadership & Decision

Track: SEM

In military terms, the line of departure is where the attack begins and when quick, yet considered decisions and flexible, yet firm leadership are crucial. The seminar confronts the participants with challenging situations that require efficient decision-making within a group and solutions that are immediately put into action. Participants will not only gain practical and theoretical leadership knowledge but also discover new sides to their personality and skills. //INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring comfortable clothing and steady footwear.

Gstrein, Alexander; Advisor; Ministry of Defence; Seminar Chair

Schiller, Alexander; Senior Training Officer for Leadership and training methodology; Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces; Seminar Chair

22 August 2024 20:00 - 23:00 | CCA Otto Molden Foyer

LAB Days: Welcome

Celebrate the start of the EFA Lab Days with us. Meet old friends and new acquaintances in a relaxed atmosphere. Come and have a chat over a drink. We look forward to meeting you!

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Heiss-Saal

Engaging AI for Democracy and Social Good

Track: SEM, Democracy

Participants explore the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on societies and geopolitics, its role in the design of non-discriminatory processes, and the promotion of inclusive democracy. Through participatory and speculative design approaches, these interactive sessions will seek alternative visions for effectively using AI for social good. Furthermore, the necessary capabilities, skills, and strategies to achieve this vision will be discussed.

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Mayer, Katja; Elise Richter Fellow; University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Müller-Birn, Claudia; Professor; Freie Universität Berlin; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Hayek-Saal

European Security and the Struggle for Technological Sovereignty

Track: SEM, Security

Progress in emerging and disruptive technologies (EDTs) is enabling a transformation of security and the democratisation of technological tools of war for which Europeans are unprepared. The seminar investigates how Europeans can consolidate defence innovation in EDTs, reduce critical dependencies, and re-shore critical supply chains in a multipolar world. A tabletop exercise allows participants to explore how current gaps in technological sovereignty practically affect European security and defence.

Burton, Joe; Professor of International Security; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

Soare, Simona; Professor of Strategy and Technology; Lancaster University; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

Accelerating Green and Digital Innovation to Achieve Net-Zero

Track: SEM, Climate

The seminar will critically assess trends in green innovation, a key ingredient in all decarbonisation pathways. A specific focus will be on digitalisation, a transformative and pervasive process creating both opportunities and risks for emission reductions across all sectors and domains. Through a case study approach, participants will develop an in-depth understanding of the drivers and barriers which characterise low-carbon innovation processes and systems and explore pathways through which digitalisation impacts decarbonisation.

Verdolini, Elena; Climate economist and professor; University of Brescia; Seminar Chair

Wilson, Charlie; Professor of Energy & Climate Change; University of Oxford; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 4

Reinventing Democracy in Europe and Beyond for Future Generations

Track: SEM, Democracy

Young people are disillusioned with democracy and participate less and less in elections. Yet they remain engaged in civic life and join demonstrations among others. How can we rejuvenate democracy by designing and embracing political innovations capable of bringing young people into the fold? Participants will gain a first-hand experience of emerging participatory mechanisms and have the chance to design new ones.

Alemanno, Alberto; Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law; HEC Paris / The Good Lobby; Seminar Chair
Pirvulescu, Corina; Co-founder; Civics International; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

The Unfolding Space Revolution: Space for Prosperity, Peace and Future Generations

Track: SEM, Security

Civil and military space assets and services critically contribute to solutions in climate change, national security, mobility, energy, or connectivity. Those contributions will rapidly become even more pervasive, and the European space sector must support the continent in increasing its status as a strong and strategically autonomous partner to the world. Participants explore the role of space in all four of EFA24's thematic tracks: Security, democracy, climate, finance and economy.

Friedling, Michel; Seminar Chair
Liebig, Volker; University Professor and former ESA director for Earth Observation Programmes; Institute for Space Systems, University of Stuttgart; Seminar Chair
Möller, Hermann Ludwig; Director; European Space Policy Institute (ESPI); Seminar Chair
O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

Geopolitical Shifts and the Global South: Navigating a New Risk-Reward Paradigm

Track: SEM, Security

The seminar will delve into current global crises, from wars to geopolitical struggles, and examine the pivotal role of the Global South with a special focus on Africa. It will further look at Europe's role, in this new geopolitical setting. The participants unpack strategies to navigate the shifting geopolitical terrain for a balanced future.

Gopaldas, Ronak; Director; Signal Risk; Seminar Chair
Tchakarova, Velina; Founder; FACE For A Conscious Experience; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 1

The Past, Present and Future of Economic Development and Global Inequalities

Track: SEM, Finance

The empirical evidence about global economic development trends are assessed with novel data sources. Furthermore, participants will be exposed to research frontier methods aimed at addressing the driving factors of global economic development and inequalities as well as future prospects and the challenges posed by climate change, automation, and geopolitical tensions.

Andrijevic, Marina; Research Scholar; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis; Seminar Chair
Crespo-Cuaresma, Jesus; Professor of Economics; Vienna University of Economics and Business; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule Turnsaal

Innovation as an Alternative to Degrowth

Track: SEM, Finance

We live in a world of conflicting policy choices as a response to the global polycrises: degrowth or innovation. In this seminar, we will dive into the detail of the nature of the crises shaping our world, the levers that policy makers have, to shape the scale of these crises, and the multiple dimensions of the solutions to overcome them through innovation. From Silicon Savannah to Silicon Valley, this seminar will analyse the innovation tools and frameworks that policymakers have at their disposal to successfully transition to a post-globalisation world.

Ambale, Amollo; Development and Innovation expert; Amollo.com; Seminar Chair
O'Sullivan, Sinead; Board Member; European Space Policy Institute; Seminar Chair
Stoisser, Hans; Managing Director; Ecotec GmbH; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

On Financial Misbehaviours: Uncovering Underminers of Democracy

Track: SEM, Finance

Financial misbehaviours erode core democratic values: tax evasion, sanction evasion, money laundering are some examples. Looking at prevalent techniques (i. e. use of shell companies) and technologies (i. e. crypto assets) enabling these illicit activities, participants gain a comprehensive understanding of modern financial misbehaviours and develop effective countermeasures to mitigate adverse effects on democracy.

Haslhofer, Bernhard; Faculty; Complexity Science Hub; Seminar Chair
Paquet-Clouston, Masarah; Assistant Professor in Criminology; Université de Montréal; Seminar Chair

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Accelerating Climate Action through Science and Partnerships

Track: SEM, Climate

Discuss climate change with a focus on current trends and future outlooks, the role of the energy transition, and its opportunities for international partnerships. We will highlight recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, debunk climate science myths, and outline key mitigation strategies. Participants will further explore challenges of supply chain resilience and be introduced to climate change impacts on the Global South.

Reiss, Karin; Program Manager; United Nations Industrial Development Organisation - UNIDO; Seminar Chair

Urge-Vorsatz, Diana; Professor / Vice Chair; CEU / IPCC; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Obergeschoß 2

The Indo-Pacific: Free, Open, Prosperous, Secure, and Resilient – for Whom?

Track: SEM, Security

The Indo-Pacific region stands for global trade routes, technological leadership, economic vibrancy, but also territorial disputes and regional turmoil – all with potential impact on Europe. The same is true for China's heightening competition with the US, or India's vying for leadership in the Global South. Meanwhile, Japan and South Korea are turning into active foreign policy and security players. Join the debate on how Europe can have a seat at the table and avoid ending up on the menu.

Kim, Duyeon; Adjunct Senior Fellow; Center for a New American Security; Seminar Chair

Reiterer, Michael; Distinguished Professor, EU-Ambassador ret.; Brussels School of Governance; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Climate Action and Democracy

Track: SEM, Climate

Explore the multifaceted relationship between climate action and democracy across Europe. We cover the current state of climate action, complexities introduced by rising populism, and the role of social media – among others. A key focus is on the potential of participatory design as a tool to enhance democratic engagement in climate action, proposing methods to directly involve citizens in policy-making processes.

Creutzig, Felix; Professor; MCC Berlin; Seminar Chair

Kolleck, Nina; W3 Professor; University of Potsdam; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Lab

Labs: Multi-Day Working Sessions

Labs are 1.5-day facilitated working session with a closed and well-selected group of 30 participants that has a joint purpose with the goal that this group, first, becomes a community of action, and second, finds answers to a larger, cross-cutting problem.

23 August 2024 13:30 - 14:30 | Ritual | Mittelschule Vorplatz

Food for Thought

“Food for Thought” takes the form of an open space following the concept of a “Speaker’s Corner”, where anyone is invited to suggest a topic of their choice and facilitate a discussion on it. Anyone – seminar chairs, distinguished visitors, scholarship holders, villagers, EFA staff and others – can host a presentation. We look forward to lively discussions!

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Open Your Mind: Meditations for our Moment of Truth – Part 2

Mindfulness and compassion are often associated with wellbeing, but they can also support our sense-making and skillful action in the world. In this session, we will explore practices for resilience in challenging times and aid the process of learning and discernment.

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Negotiation Skills

Track: SEM

Negotiation is a skill you use in every sphere of life. Participants learn to negotiate in both competitive and collaborative situations. Practical exercises help identify one’s own negotiation style and strategies to overcome difficulties like imbalance of power and mental biases. Learn to manage any negotiation challenges across different spheres of personal and professional life.

Giner-Reichl, Irene; EFA-Council Chairperson; EFA; Seminar Chair
Mehta, Kandarp; Senior Lecturer; IESE Business School; Seminar Chair

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Track: ART, SEM

Woodland Dialogues is an immersive project in the Alpbach forest exploring the collaborative creation of dance and music. Participants will draw inspiration from nature to craft soundscapes and choreography, reflecting unity and individuality. The seminar culminates in a performance showcasing the collaborative art formed throughout the week.

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Track: SEM, Democracy

Polarisation is one of the most pressing issues of our time. It undermines our ability to collaborate in addressing various contemporary challenges. Different approaches to manage difficult conversations on polarising topics are being explored interactively. Based on practical tools and exercises, the seminar will equip participants with the skills to promote healthy conflict resolution.

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Track: SEM

In this seminar participants delve into the journalistic mindset and techniques to explore the complexity of truth and of our relationship with reality. Participants will be introduced to the basics of journalism through practical exercises and embark on a journey to uncover the multifaceted nature of truth through mastering interview techniques, posing challenging questions, practising empathetic listening, and understanding diverse perspectives.

Leppäjärvi, Anne; Journalism Degree Director, Journalist; Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences; Seminar Chair

Munk, Veronika; Director of Innovation and New Markets; Denník N; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 1

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Track: ART, SEM

The fashion industry is going through significant changes: The consumers demand transparency, brands reinvent themselves with sustainability campaigns and policy changes bring a range of new regulations that will have an impact on business logistics and operations. The participants take a journey through the complex world of fashion with a hands-on approach through class discussions, upcycling sessions and a visit to a local supplier.

Rachimova, Sabinna; Founder, Lecturer, Consultant; Fashion Revolution Austria, SABINNA; Seminar Chair

Schratzberger, Nadine; Co-Founder; Fashion Revolution Austria; Seminar Chair

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Frasca, Jason; Co-Founder; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

Kerr, Iain; Founding Co-Director; Emergent Futures Lab; Seminar Chair

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Lane-McElroy, Charley; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

McLaughlin, Cassandra; Student; Bath Spa University; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Liechtenstein-Saal

AI Tools as Digital Butlers: Responsible Use and Practical Applications

Track: SEM

The seminar offers an in-depth insight into the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini or iask.ai. It illustrates how these tools can act as digital assistants. Experimental exercises demonstrate how AI can be used practically, while discussions and reflections deepen the understanding of the limitations and potentials. The participants will discover ways to use AI technologies consciously and effectively during their studies and in daily life.

//INFO: Please make sure to bring your own laptop to the seminar. If you do not have one, please contact the EFA-Team at seminars@alpbach.org

Herczeg, Petra; Programme Director and Senior Lecturer; Department of Communication, University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

Scholl, Armin; Professor; Department of Communication, University of Münster, Germany; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Finance Unleashed: Innovate, Invest, Inspire

Track: SEM, Finance

Step into Finance Unleashed, an engaging financial simulation game that offers a hands-on approach to investing and wealth management. Participate in real-time decision-making scenarios, guided by insights from leading financial experts. This interactive seminar emphasises the essential role of financial education in crafting a sustainable and prosperous future and in navigating the complexities of the financial world with confidence.

//INFO: Please make sure to bring your own laptop to the seminar. If you do not have one, please contact the EFA-Team at seminars@alpbach.org

Bayer, Daniel; CEO; Fingu GmbH; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

A Place of Safety

Track: ART, SEM

Many actors get introduced to theatre by their parents sending them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; and so, it happens that they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. They will say that right there, there is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

Staying Sane in a Smart World: Positive Psychology & Resilience

Track: SEM

Digitalisation of work offers many opportunities, but also downsides like a blurred line between work and leisure. This seminar starts from the neurobiology of (social) media use and expands to the known and unknown of the impact on mental health. Asking how one can use its potentials rather than succumb to the threats, it provides tools for selfcare and aims to develop a personalised model for dealing with the impact of media use.

Narbeshuber, Esther; Managing Director; Mindlead Institut GmbH; Seminar Chair

Narbeshuber, Johannes; CEO; Trigon Development Consultants; Seminar Chair

Plener, Paul; Head of the Dept. of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Medical University of Vienna; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 1

Creating an Ensemble

Track: ART, SEM

Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid; Acting Tutor; RADA; Seminar Chair

Sheppard, Nona; Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel; Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA); Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule EG Klasse 3

Line of Departure - Leadership & Decision

Track: SEM

In military terms, the line of departure is where the attack begins and when quick, yet considered decisions and flexible, yet firm leadership are crucial. The seminar confronts the participants with challenging situations that require efficient decision-making within a group and solutions that are immediately put into action. Participants will not only gain practical and theoretical leadership knowledge but also discover new sides to their personality and skills. //INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring comfortable clothing and steady footwear.

Gstrein, Alexander; Advisor; Ministry of Defence; Seminar Chair

Schiller, Alexander; Senior Training Officer for Leadership and training methodology; Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces; Seminar Chair

23 August 2024 15:00 - 18:00 | Lab

Labs: Multi-Day Working Sessions

Labs are 1.5-day facilitated working session with a closed and well-selected group of 30 participants that has a joint purpose with the goal that this group, first, becomes a community of action, and second, finds answers to a larger, cross-cutting problem.

23 August 2024 19:00 - 20:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Alpbach Seminars - Closing

Join the European Forum Alpbach 2024 Alpbach Seminars closing ceremony! A group of young talents from all over the world celebrates the successful completion of the Alpbach Seminars, shares insights into their learnings and takeaways, and gives inspiring art performances.

23 August 2024 20:00 - 20:30 | Ritual | Dorfplatz

Open Air Concert Alpbach Brass Band

On Fridays during the summer months, the Alpbach brass band hosts their open-air concert on the village square. All Alpbach residents as well as national and international guests are cordially invited!

24 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Lab

Labs: Multi-Day Working Sessions

Labs are 1.5-day facilitated working session with a closed and well-selected group of 30 participants that has a joint purpose with the goal that this group, first, becomes a community of action, and second, finds answers to a larger, cross-cutting problem.

24 August 2024 10:00 - 12:00 | Work | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Alpbach IDEAS Kick-Off

Join us for the Alpbach IDEAS programme 2024/25! Alpbach IDEAS is a one-year journey that bridges the gap between theory, and offers a space to experiment, learn and co-create ideas for a more democratic and sustainable Europe to aspiring changemakers and innovators. Learn more about the programme and participation at Alpbach IDEAS 2024/2025.

Obrist, Michael; Head of Venture Incubation; Pioneers Innovation; Speaker

24 August 2024 16:30 - 18:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Opening: Europe in the World Days

The opening of the Europe in the World Days will revolve around the annual theme of this year's European Forum Alpbach "Moment of Truth" and the module focus of Europe's role in the world. It will pave the way for the subsequent discussions.

Barroso, José Manuel; Former President of the European Commission; Speaker

Fischer, Joschka; Former Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs; Federal Republic of Germany; Speaker

Pope Francis; Head of the Catholic Church; (via Livestream); Speaker (online)

Treichl, Andreas; President; European Forum Alpbach; Speaker

24 August 2024 18:30 - 21:00 | Social

Be(e) Together – An Invitation from ERSTE Foundation

Supported by: Erste Stiftung

To round off the opening of the Europe in the World Days, ERSTE Foundation invites you to an evening of music, culinary and installation interventions in the heart of Alpbach. Topics that concern us all – be it in Alpbach, Tyrol or elsewhere in Europe – will be addressed in an active and participatory manner. New forms of community are needed: an evening to share what is important and to celebrate together!

25 August 2024 07:00 - 08:00 | Ritual | CCA Vorplatz

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Supported by: Federal Ministry of Defence

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

25 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Is Economic Inequality Inevitable?

Track: Finance, Democracy

Since the 1980s, wealth and income inequality has started to rise again in many countries. While some, such as the US, have seen a significant increase in inequality, others, such as Sweden, have maintained relatively stable levels. Explore the reasons for these divergent trends: What are the roots of inequality and which policies can make a real difference?

Felbermayr, Gabriel; Director; Austrian Institute of Economic Research; Speaker

Meierkord, Anja; Labour Market Expert; OECD; Moderator

Schularick, Moritz; President; Kiel Institute for the World Economy; Speaker

Stiglitz, Joseph E.; Economist, Public Policy Analyst and Professor; Columbia University; Speaker

Weber, Andrea; Professor of Economics; Central European University; Speaker

25 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Winds of Radical Change in European Politics?

Track: Democracy

European politics is witnessing unprecedented shifts, challenging established structures and giving rise to new movements. This two-part debate will initially investigate whether a radical change in the European political landscape has in fact occurred, dissecting election results and the driving forces behind them. We will then discuss the broader implications, whether there will be a radical change in the trajectory of Europe and Europe's role in the world.

Alemanno, Alberto; Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law; HEC Paris / The Good Lobby; Speaker

Krastev, Ivan; Permanent fellow; Institute for Human Sciences IWM Vienna; Speaker

Krekó, Péter; Director; Political Capital; Speaker

Oertel, Janka; Director, Asia programme; European Council on Foreign Relations; Speaker

Wigura, Karolina; Member of Management Board; Kultura Liberalna; Speaker

25 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | Schulhäusl

The Elephant in the Room: Goodbye, Cognitive Dissonance

Track: ART, Climate

It is an intellectual contradiction, an unbearable gap between personal aspirations and reality: Cognitive dissonance confronts us with the discrepancy between what we know and how we behave as we face major crises. The transformative potential of artistic and psychological approaches will help you find new ways to move beyond feelings of powerlessness and discomfort, and allow for utopian thinking.

Brudermann, Thomas; Associate Professor; University of Graz; Speaker
Omari Ansong, Iris; Dancer, Performer & Dance Facilitator; Freelancer; Artist

25 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | CCA Terrasse

Let's Talk to Each Other: Impulses in a Speechless World

Supported by: Federal Ministry for Defence | Track: Security

In a world of rapid change, fragmentation and polarisation mark society and politics. Although contemporary challenges require close international cooperation, the willingness and ability to engage in dialogue are dwindling. Democracy is under pressure, alternatives are appearing and Europe has to explain itself. How can defence policy support a stable space for discussions?

25 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

No Nature, No Business

Track: Climate, Finance

All human economic activities rely on natural resources and ecosystems. Yet, the state of nature and biodiversity is critical all around the globe. Hear different concepts and strategies about how businesses can integrate nature and biodiversity goals into corporate strategies. It is explored how to achieve long-term prosperity and economic resilience, by becoming not only climate-neutral but climate-positive. //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and sufficient water.

Dunlop, Kirsten; CEO; EIT Climate-KIC; Speaker
Heinzel, Sebastian; CEO; Heinzel Group; Speaker
Ottacher, Gebhard; Managing Director; Climate Lab; Moderator
Rycroft, Nicole; Founder & Executive Director; CanopyPlanet; Speaker
Schumacher, Tim; Co-Founder; Ecosia.org & World Fund; Speaker

25 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

Risky Business: Europe's Economic (In-)Security

Track: Finance, Security

The pandemic and the war in Ukraine have shown Europe's dependencies in critical areas. Since then, there has been a lot of talk about "de-risking": mitigating risks and limiting strategic dependencies. However, it's still not clear what this would mean for Europe. How much de-risking is necessary to safeguard Europe's economic security and when does de-risking itself become a risk to the economy? //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Gehrke, Tobias; Senior Policy Fellow; European Council on Foreign Relations; Speaker

Hahn, Svenja; Member of the European Parliament; European Parliament; Speaker

Herlitschka, Sabine; Chief Executive Officer; Infineon Technologies Austria AG; Speaker

Zettelmeyer, Jeromin; Director; BRUEGEL; Speaker

Zinkanell, Michael Gabriel; Director; Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES); Moderator

25 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

The Geopolitics of Enlargement: A Way to Safeguard the European Space

Supported by: European Council on Foreign Relations | Track: Security

The EU Enlargement is increasingly seen as an effective foreign policy tool to diminish the influence of external powers in the Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans. Reframing European integration as a strategy to provide security for the neighbourhoods, as well as make EU Member States safer, will certainly strengthen the EU's standing as a geopolitical actor - for example through a sustainable peace settlement for Ukraine and sound security arrangements for Moldova.

Buras, Piotr; Head ECFR Warsaw; European Council on Foreign Relations; Moderator

25 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Harnessing AI in the Service of Democracy

Track: Democracy

As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to advance, there is growing interest in leveraging its capabilities to enhance democratic processes and governance. We aim to nurture a nuanced understanding of the opportunities and challenges associated with harnessing AI in the service of democracy and of its potential for improving democratic engagement. Join the dialogue on best practices, ethical considerations and policy implications.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Mayer, Katja; Elise Richter Fellow; University of Vienna; Speaker

Nkonde, Mutale; Founder & CEO; AI for the People; Speaker

Simic, Ana; CEO | Supervisory Board Member; Engage Technology | ASFINAG | EuroTeleSites AG;

Moderator

Villani, Cédric; University Professor; University Lyon I & IHES; Speaker

25 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

Making Pension Systems Fit for the Future

Track: Finance

Global demographic changes, such as declining birth rates and increasing life expectancy, are challenging the sustainability of many European pension systems. Explore how successful pension models can provide valuable lessons. It is critical to act now and implement policies that ensure a secure future for all, preventing old-age poverty for future generations. //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Demertzis, Maria; Professor EUI, Senior Fellow Bruegel; EUI, Bruegel; Speaker
Meierkord, Anja; Labour Market Expert; OECD; Moderator

25 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | Hotel Post - Seminarraum

New African-European Ambition: Ways Forward in Energy, Climate and Tech

Supported by: Heinrich Böll Foundation | Track: Climate

Africa and Europe have the unique opportunity to work together in the context of emerging tools and technologies and to co-create climate and energy policy solutions. Those have to be just and effective for both sides on the path towards climate neutrality. Leading policy makers, activists and experts discuss the ambitions, potentials and hurdles the African-European partnership is facing.

25 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

“Hip Hope” – Reimagining the Future in the Balkans

Supported by: ERSTE Foundation | Track: Democracy

The Western Balkans continues to find itself mired in a stagnant status quo, trapped in traditional diplomatic discourse, without ideas to forge a path forward. This deadlock necessitates a fresh infusion of perspectives, essential for breaking through the barriers that obstruct regional advancement. These perspectives exist and must be brought to light; they need to free the Balkans from the despair and inertia that have held it captive for far too long.

25 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | Feuerwehrhaus

Engaging the Private Sector for the Social Good

Supported by: Friends of Europe | Track: Finance

Businesses are pivotal to Europe’s social contract, driving growth and innovation while impacting societal well-being. Despite public mistrust of their profit-led motives, their capacity for rapid, scalable innovation is undeniable. Explore how governments and the EU can harness this potential for the social good, rethinking interactions between the private sector, public institutions, and citizens to forge a new relationship.

Felbermayr, Gabriel; Director; Austrian Institute of Economic Research; Speaker
Felton, Lisa; Speaker
Kanani, Dharmendra; Chief Operating Officer and Chief Spokesperson; Friends of Europe; Moderator
Stiglitz, Joseph E.; Economist, Public Policy Analyst and Professor; Columbia University; Speaker

25 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

The Future of Multilateralism

Track: Security

The world is far from achieving the Sustainable Development Goals: Extreme poverty and hunger are increasing, violent conflicts are multiplying and global emissions are at their highest levels ever. In September, the UN will convene a "Summit of the Future" to reinvigorate multilateralism. How should the system be adapted to better meet current challenges? Hear perspectives from different countries, and share your ideas for the future of multilateralism.

Fleming, Melissa; Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications; United Nations; Speaker
Ischinger, Wolfgang; President of the Foundation Council; Munich Security Conference Foundation; Speaker
Wehler-Schöck, Anja; International Editor; Tagesspiegel; Moderator

25 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

The End of the World as We Know It: Big Oil's Final Countdown

Track: Climate

If the global community is to be true to its commitments, carbon emissions need to be reduced by at least 45 % globally and by at least 55 % EU-wide by 2030. Fossil fuel use and production need to be scaled down, yet the industry remains heavily subsidised. It is time to explore the most effective ways of bringing movement into the stuck system of 'big oil' power. What can (shareholder) activism, (financial) regulation, investment stewardship, or other actors achieve?

Alexandersen, Astrid; Program Manager; KR Foundation; Speaker
Campanale, Mark; Founder & Director; Carbon Tracker Initiative; Speaker
Vanizette, Christian; Co-Founder; chilli.club & makesense; Speaker

25 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Financing the Green Transition: Who Is Going to Pay the Bill?

Track: Climate, Finance

The transition that lies ahead is unprecedented. Achieving a climate-neutral economy requires political commitment as well as substantial investment and rapid action. It is vital to ensure a just and equitable transition for all stakeholders, leaving no one behind. Explore how to unlock the necessary investment, both from the EU and national public sectors, and from the private sector.

//INFO: The session will begin with the short film *Afterlives* (Michael Heindl, AT 2022, 3:27 min), offering an artistic perspective on the topic of discussion.

Dixson-Declève, Sandrine; Co-President; The Club of Rome; Speaker
Dörfler, Stefan; CFO; Erste Group Bank AG; Speaker
Dunlop, Kirsten; CEO; EIT Climate-KIC;
Hamers, Ralph; Former CEO; UBS and ING; Speaker
Rosen, Monika; Vice President; Austro-American Society; Moderator

25 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Finding Common Ground in a Polarised World

Track: Democracy

Against the backdrop of growing polarisation, the complexity of national identities, diverse cultures and opposing ideologies, ways must be found for meaningful dialogue and common ground. How can we bridge divides in politics and society? Can shared values or goals serve as a foundation?

Goldman, Aaron; Director, JFK Jr. Forum at Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics; Harvard University; Speaker

Szyszkowitz, Tessa; Author, Journalist and Columnist; Falter; Moderator

25 August 2024 18:30 - 19:00 | Ritual | Kirche

Into the Silence: Evening Ritual

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

25 August 2024 18:30 - 19:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

To Grow or Not to Grow: The Path Towards a Climate-Positive Economy

Track: Climate, Finance

The negative social, emotional and environmental consequences of our current model of economic growth are becoming ever more evident. Planetary resources are finite and emissions from production and consumption steadily increase. What model works best to achieve economic, social and planetary wellbeing? Hear three visions and challenge the speakers with your questions.

Mehta, Nipun; Founder; ServiceSpace; Speaker

Ottacher, Gebhard; Managing Director; Climate Lab; Moderator

Wagner, Gernot; Climate economist; Columbia Business School; Speaker

25 August 2024 19:30 - 23:00 | Happening | Spar Tiefgarage

DIVES / Tonica Hunter

Track: ART

Dancing in the parking garage - join us for an unforgettable evening with a concert and DJ set: The Viennese band DIVES met at a music camp for women, inter and trans people in 2015. They have since perfected their brand of stirring multivocal indiepop with DIY vibes, characterised by lyrics about everyday sexism and self care, friendship and summer nights.

As a DJ Tonica Hunter has founded collectives and events and DJ'd at many festivals and cultural spaces. Hunter describes their sound as a merger of their Jamaican roots, their London upbringing and their ties to Africa as a member of the Diaspora - as well as the navigation of those identities.

DOORS: 19:30

DIVES: 20:00

TONICA HUNTER: 21:00

Breitfuss, Laura; Musician; DIVES; Artist

de Goederen, Dora; Artist

Hunter, Tonica; Curator, Lecturer; Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien; Artist

Kirner, Viktoria; Journalist, Musician, Lawyer; Der Standard; Artist

Leichtfried, Tamara; Musician; DIVES; Artist

25 August 2024 20:15 - 22:00 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

The 18th Annual Speakers Night at the European Forum Alpbach

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Styria

Speakers Night is the popular public speaking contest; a platform for scholarship holders to showcase their oratorical skills on the big stage. The format offers a select group of bright young minds the ideal opportunity to share their ideas and perspectives on a pre-determined topic with a larger audience, all while receiving valuable feedback from a distinguished panel.

List, Kathryn; Chairwoman of the Board; AVL Cultural Foundation; Chair

26 August 2024 04:00 - 09:00 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Sunrise Hike: Gratspitz

Rise and shine: Enjoy the first rays of sunshine on the top of Alpbach. Experience this special atmosphere and start your day energised!

//INFO: The hike is not recommended for beginners! Attention: 900 metres in elevation gain! Please wear hiking boots, bring water and possibly a small snack. If you have a head torch available, please bring it with you. Participation at your own risk!

26 August 2024 07:00 - 08:00 | Ritual | CCA Vorplatz

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Supported by: Federal Ministry of Defence

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

26 August 2024 08:00 - 08:30 | Ritual | Kirche

Into the Silence: Morning Ritual

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

26 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Let's Call a Spade a Spade: What the EU Needs to Do to Make it Right.

Supported by: Erste Group

Which role does Europe play globally? What does the continent's future potential consist of? Do the EU's values (still) have a role in the age of BigTech and AI? How do we address the megatrends that shape our times: demographics, climate change, inequality, and globalization? This panel offers diverse range of views, but with one common denominator: the belief that Europe's best days are yet to come!

Bosek, Peter; CEO; Erste Group Bank AG; Speaker

Goulard, Sylvie; Professor of Practice in Global Affairs and Geopolitics; SDA Bocconi School of Management; Speaker

Milborn, Corinna; Author | Journalist | Moderator; ProSieben.Sat1.PULS4; Moderator

Thorning-Schmidt, Helle; Former Prime Minister of Denmark (2011–2015); Speaker

26 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | CCA Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

EU Enlargement: A New Chapter or Old Wine in New Bottles?

Track: Democracy, Security

The war in Ukraine has brought a new sense of urgency to the EU enlargement process. The European Council opened accession negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova. Now comes the hard part, as the candidate countries in the Western Balkans know only too well. We will discuss what Ukraine and Moldova can learn from their experiences and what impact the new momentum driven by Ukraine has on the enlargement process in the Western Balkans and in general.

Edtstadler, Karoline; Federal Minister for the EU and Constitution; Republic of Austria; Speaker

Gherasimov, Cristina; Deputy Prime Minister for European Integration; Republic of Moldova; Speaker

Heilbronn, Pierre; Speaker

Mayr-Harting, Thomas; Chair of the International Advisory Board; European Forum Alpbach; Moderator

Milatović, Jakov; President; Republic of Montenegro; Speaker

26 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | Schulhäusl

Instigated Contact

Track: ART

New, unusual encounters are made possible through surprising methods and dynamic interactions in changing locations. You'll dare to ask questions, give compliments and cause conditions to dance. The open exchange with each other, which is used as a key tool for practising democracy, encourages sustainable connections.

Anton, Matthias; Artist and Educator; Kulturagent*innen Hamburg e.V.; Artist

Münz, Julia; Cultural Agent; Kulturagent*innen Hamburg e.V.; Artist

26 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | CCA Terrasse

Energy Beyond Borders: Industry Partnerships for a Sustainable Future

Supported by: Enery | Track: Climate

Envision a future where sustainable energy powers Europe's industry. Explore how partnerships between industry, green energy producers, and public stakeholders are tackling climate challenges and enhance economies along with innovations such as cross-border Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). Join us to shape Europe's energy future and drive collective action towards a greener future.

26 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Rethinking Work in the Age of AI & Automation

Track: Finance

Digital technologies have fundamentally changed the way businesses operate and people interact. While many jobs will be lost along the way, many more will be created and almost all will be transformed. What will the future of work look like? Discuss how policy makers, companies and societies can ensure that workers acquire the skills needed to succeed in an ever-changing labour market. //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Meierkord, Anja; Labour Market Expert; OECD; Speaker

Meissner, Philip; Founder / Director; European Center for Digital Competitiveness; Speaker

Simic, Ana; CEO | Supervisory Board Member; Engage Technology | ASFINAG | EuroTeleSites AG; Moderator

Stengg, Werner; Cabinet Expert; European Commission; Speaker

26 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

Youth as Catalysts for Change

Track: Democracy

Young people are increasingly powerful agents of change, driving innovative solutions and advocating for progressive policies on a global scale. We aim to illuminate the pivotal role of youth in shaping policies worldwide, exploring their diverse contributions – such as involving first-time voters or training other young change-makers – and charting pathways for meaningful youth engagement in decision-making processes.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Dober, Rebekka; Founder; YEP Austria; Speaker

Pressl, Damita; Journalist and Moderator; NZZ; Moderator

26 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Resilience Against a Backlash: Maintaining Momentum for Climate Action

Track: Climate, Democracy

There will either be a just transition or no transition at all – This is a statement that is often heard. Particularly in times of (anticipated) backsliding on climate action, it is crucial that a) the transition is designed by taking everyone's needs and interests into account, and b) polarising voices do not dominate the discourse. Explore arguments and policies that really work in addressing the trilemma of social justice, democratic participation and climate action and find out how to best make the case for such policies in order to counter an anti-climate mood.

Kambli, Namita; Research Manager; E3G; Moderator

Wheaton, Pip; Planet & Climate; Ashoka; Speaker

26 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Work | Schulhäusl

Campaign for the Future

Track: ART

Have you heard the good news? It's a historic election year: the ideal time for a playful reflection on the utopian potential of elections and democracy itself. Take part in two utopian election campaigns and work with the campaign teams as they prepare for a collective performative election rally.

Aksöz Balzar, Zeynep; Assistant Professor; TU Wien; Artist

Duller, Kathrina; Artist

Hunter, Tonica; Curator, Lecturer; Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien; Artist

Kirner, Viktoria; Journalist, Musician, Lawyer; Der Standard; Artist

Mayr, Jakob; Designer; Studio Jakob Mayr; Artist

Podlaha, Nikolaus; Architectural Designer, Urban Researcher; Self-employed entrepreneur; Artist

Puschmann, Florian; Artist

Todorovic, Aleksandar; Graphic designer; Self-employed entrepreneur; Artist

Wittmann, Kilian; Graphic Design; Kilian Wittmann; Artist

26 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

Finding a New Balance in Times of Crises: Trade and Climate Relations between Europe and Africa

Track: Climate

The EU has made commitments to support Africa in its climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts. At the same time, the EU's climate diplomacy actions could contribute to a potential slowing down of African economic growth. How can the two continents shape a relationship that advances decarbonisation without creating trade barriers, that is, a relationship that is reciprocal and fit for the challenges of the 21st century? //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and sufficient water.

Kenewendo, Bogolo Joy; Global Economist, Former Minister Investment, Trade and Industry; Kenewendo Advisory; Speaker

Lamy, Pascal; Chairman; Climate Overshoot Commission; Speaker

Rodríguez Ramos, María Soraya; Speaker

26 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | CCA Terrasse

Supporting a Balanced and Sustainable Diet

Supported by: Nestlé | Track: Climate

A balanced diet should provide all macro- and micronutrients a person needs to remain healthy. Food's affordability and accessibility often stand as barriers. At the same time, we need to ensure that food is produced in a way that creates a more resilient future of our planet and its people. So how can the dietary needs over the human lifespan be addressed in a sustainable manner?

26 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

The Geopolitics of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)

Supported by: Austrian National Bank (OeNB)

Central Banks around the globe are developing Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs). This could challenge the current dollar-based system. A single CBDC may have an enormous standard-setting effect. If the digital euro becomes the standard-setter on its promise of privacy, Europe could regain ownership of its financial infrastructure, increase competitiveness and change geopolitical positions.

26 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

State-Sponsored Disinformation and the Dangers to Electoral Integrity

Track: Democracy, Security

In this historic election year, we are confronted with the multifaceted challenges posed by state-sponsored disinformation more than ever before. This includes voter manipulation and defamation campaigns. Explore the learnings we can draw from these attacks on electoral integrity and identify strategies to best protect the democratic electoral process of the future.

Clifford, Cayley; Deputy Chief Editor; Africa Check; Speaker

Kovalcikova, Nad'a; Senior Analyst and CFI Project Director; EU Institute for Security Studies; Speaker

Krekó, Péter; Director; Political Capital; Moderator

Schiffirin, Anya; Director of the Technology, Media and Communication Department; Columbia University SIPA; Speaker

26 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

US vs. EU Green Tech Race: How to Work Together?

Track: Climate, Finance

The US and the EU are both pushing their green industries, but they are taking different approaches. The recent US Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) sent a clear message that green technology is a profitable industry. This has raised concerns in Europe that companies will choose to invest in the US rather than in Europe. What can Europe learn from the US to unlock private investment in clean technologies and which opportunities for cooperation exist?

Gerbert, Philipp; CEO; TUM Venture Labs; Speaker

Mateen, Haaris; University of Houston; Speaker

Rosen, Monika; Vice President; Austro-American Society; Moderator

26 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Imagining Green, Sustainable and Regenerative Cities

Supported by: IKEA | Track: Climate

The session will visualise greener urban landscapes, focusing on transforming urban spaces globally to ensure a sustainable and livable future. The discussion delves into the practical realisation of these concepts, aiming to create environmentally sustainable urban environments that are well-prepared for the challenges of tomorrow.

Deliloglu, Alpaslan; CEO & Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO); IKEA Austria; Speaker

Kamensky, Jan; Artist; Visual Utopias; Speaker

26 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | Böglerhof - Fichtensaal

Unpacking the Role of Packaging & Circularity Towards a Climate Neutral Europe

Supported by: Constantia Flexibles | Track: Climate

Consumers encounter packaging every day. Packaging plays a major role in preserving the valuable content inside but also for the ecological perception by consumers. A transformation towards more circularity and less environmental impact is necessary. The discussion will explore how packaging design has already changed and will have to change over the next half decade to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals, especially in the context of policy regulation.

26 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Better Safe Than Sorry: Time to Get Serious about European Strategic Sovereignty

Track: Security

Former US President Trump's statements about NATO shocked European allies and raised doubts about the continued reliability of the US as Europe's security guarantor. Will Europe be able to defend and promote its way of life without the US? What does it take to achieve more sovereignty in terms of security and defence?

//INFO: The session will begin with the short film Power (Dana Sink, US 2017, 2:23 min), offering an artistic perspective on the topic of discussion.

Clüver Ashbrook, Cathryn; Executive Vice President/Senior Advisor; Bertelsmann Stiftung; Moderator

González Laya, Arancha; Dean Paris School of International Affairs; Sciences Po; Speaker

Pisarska, Katarzyna; Founder & Director; European Academy of Diplomacy; Speaker

Schallenberg, Alexander; Federal Minister for European and International Affairs; Republic of Austria; Speaker

26 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Chat | CCA Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Joining Forces for 1.5 Degrees

Track: Climate

The more the global community delays its climate actions, the more drastic they will have to be. At the same time, disasters and looming crises unite individuals and organisations to achieve the previously unthinkable. What are moonshot moments of transformation that will bring global climate goals on track in the imminent future? How can we redesign our social and economic systems to prioritise sustainability, regeneration, and resilience in face of the risk of missing the 1.5-degree target?

Dixson-Declève, Sandrine; Co-President; The Club of Rome; Speaker

Rycroft, Nicole; Founder & Executive Director; CanopyPlanet; Speaker

26 August 2024 18:30 - 19:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Relationship Status EU-China: It's Complicated.

Track: Security

In its 2019 strategic outlook on EU-China relations, the European Commission described China as a partner for cooperation, an economic competitor and a systemic rival. Since then, China has become more repressive at home and more assertive abroad. Should the new Commission adapt its strategy? Listen to three different perspectives on EU-China relations and challenge the speakers with your questions.

Clifford, Fionn; MPA holder; Peking University; Speaker

Oertel, Janka; Director, Asia programme; European Council on Foreign Relations; Speaker

Opletal, Helmut; Fellow; Department of East Asian Studies, University of Vienna; Speaker

Zinkanell, Michael Gabriel; Director; Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES); Moderator

26 August 2024 20:00 - 22:00 | Social | Alphof - Speisesaal

Celebrate Europe together

Supported by: Erste Group

Tyrol welcomes Europe: The Alphof terrace transforms into a dance floor. Let's embrace this occasion, meet new people, clink our glasses and take in the vibrant Alpbach ambiance.

27 August 2024 07:00 - 08:00 | Ritual | CCA Vorplatz

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Supported by: Federal Ministry of Defence

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

27 August 2024 08:00 - 08:30 | Ritual | Kirche

Into the Silence: Morning Ritual

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

27 August 2024 09:00 - 10:00 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Closing: Europe in the World Days

To close out the Europe in the World Days, an in-depth ex-post analysis of the previous European Commission cycle and an ex-ante analysis for the upcoming one are completed while looking for a broad vision for the future of the EU.

Cloos, Jim; Secretary General; TEPSA; Speaker

Demertzis, Maria; Professor EUI, Senior Fellow Bruegel; EUI, Bruegel; Speaker

Letta, Enrico; Former Prime Minister of Italy; Speaker

Pornschlegel, Sophie; Director of Studies; Europe Jacques Delors; Speaker

27 August 2024 10:00 - 11:30 | Chat | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

(Re-)Creating Affordable Housing in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE)

Supported by: ERSTE Foundation | Track: Finance

While affordable housing models thrive in Austria, they have almost ceased to exist in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), where the vast majority of the population lives in their own dwelling. Following a recent surge in real estate prices, flats in the region's major cities have become the most expensive in the European Union, posing a real challenge, especially for the younger generation. We'll delve into the strategies to leverage Austria's experience in creating new ways towards affordable housing in CEE.

Blaha, Marek; CEO; Dostupné bydlení České spořitelny, a.s.; Speaker

Lehmann, Raphael; Impact Investment Manager; Erste Social Finance Holding; Speaker

Nidetzky, Tomáš; National Development Bank; Speaker

27 August 2024 10:30 - 12:00 | Chat | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Alpbach Talks

Supported by: Erste Group

Talking brings people together. The pursuit of a "moment of truth" demands lively discussions, contrasting views, and an exchange of ideas. Bold perspectives are encouraged! By answering five questions, you are matched with a thought-provoking discussion partner and engage in a spirited one-to-one discussion aimed at providing both participants with new insights. Who knows, maybe you'll even discover that you and your discussion partner have more in common than you'd initially thought? At the very least, you'll leave with new perspectives.

// Please arrive on time to avoid missing the "matching" of participants, as this only occurs once.

Bleier, Ingo; Chief Corporates and Markets Officer; Erste Group Bank AG; Speaker

27 August 2024 12:00 - 14:30 | Happening | CCA Vorplatz

EFA x Popchop Food Market

Regional farmers and producers meet urban foodies. Enjoy your lunch break over a variety of culinary delights and get inspired by the topic of sustainable nutrition. After taking some refreshment, let's head to the opening of the Austria in Europe Days. Bon Appétit!

27 August 2024 14:00 - 16:00 | Happening | Mittelschule Vorplatz

Alpbach Pride

Hosted by: Initiative Group Alpbach Wien | Track: ART

Alpbach Pride celebrates its fourth edition! Join the parade and raise your voice against social exclusion. As prejudices and discriminating practices against the LGBTQIA* community are on the rise in Europe and beyond, it remains necessary to continue this newly established tradition. Feel free to come in your best Pride outfit and get the glitter shining for a joint celebration of diversity.

27 August 2024 16:30 - 18:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Opening: Austria in Europe Days

The opening of the Austria in Europe Days revolves around the annual theme of this year's EFA event "Moment of Truth" and paves the way for subsequent discussions.

Grossi, Rafael; Director General; International Atomic Energy Agency; Speaker

Hetzer, Martin; President; ISTA - Institute of Science and Technology; Speaker

Milborn, Corinna; Author | Journalist | Moderator; ProSieben.Sat1.PULS4; Moderator

Neubauer, Luisa; Climate Activist & Author; Fridays for Future; Speaker

Schmid, Helga Maria; Secretary General; Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe; Speaker

Treichl, Andreas; President; European Forum Alpbach; Speaker

27 August 2024 18:30 - 22:00 | Social | CCA Otto Molden Foyer

Cheers to EFA24 by A1

Supported by: A1

After an inspiring start to the Austria in Europe Days, let's continue the conversation over music, drinks and some nibbles! Connect with fellow participants, exchange ideas, and wind down in a relaxed atmosphere.

27 August 2024 19:30 - 21:00 | Happening | CCA Loggia

Inhabit the Future: Election Night

Track: ART

A campaign with a twist appears all over Alpbach this year. The votes have almost been counted, exit polls are announced, the excitement is mounting: Which long-term vision of the future will it be? Who will win the election of utopias? The students of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art will help you decide by staging two different visions during an exciting election rally. The campaign is almost over – cast your vote and be there when the results are announced.

Aksöz Balzar, Zeynep; Assistant Professor; TU Wien; Artist

Duller, Kathrina; Artist

Hunter, Tonica; Curator, Lecturer; Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien; Artist

Kirner, Viktoria; Journalist, Musician, Lawyer; Der Standard; Artist

Mayr, Jakob; Designer; Studio Jakob Mayr; Artist

Podlaha, Nikolaus; Architectural Designer, Urban Researcher; Self-employed entrepreneur; Artist

Puschmann, Florian; Artist

Todorovic, Aleksandar; Graphic designer; Self-employed entrepreneur; Artist

Wittmann, Kilian; Graphic Design; Kilian Wittmann; Artist

28 August 2024 07:00 - 08:00 | Ritual | CCA Vorplatz

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Supported by: Federal Ministry of Defence

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

28 August 2024 08:00 - 08:30 | Ritual | Kirche

Into the Silence: Morning Ritual

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

28 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Back on Track: Democratic Backsliding and the Challenge of Re-Democratisation

Track: Democracy

With democratic norms in a worldwide decline, the consequences of this erosion have to be recognised and democratic success stories, such as the case of Poland, have to be appreciated and learnings adopted. We build an understanding of the signs and steps of democratic backsliding, and examine the challenge of re-democratisation, most notably restoring checks and balances and media freedom.

Bodnar, Adam; Minister of Justice; Republic of Poland; Speaker

Pressl, Damita; Journalist and Moderator; NZZ; Moderator

Spremo, Jovana; Advocacy Director; Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights (YUCOM); Speaker

Zadić, Alma; Federal Minister of Justice; Republic of Austria; Speaker

28 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | Böglhof - Fichtensaal

Aging Europe: Ensuring Prosperity, Advancing Innovation

Supported by: Austrian Economic Chamber (WKÖ) | Track: Finance

The demographic shift affects all of Europe. As the population ages rapidly, the number of people in the working-age group decreases. The challenge lies in maintaining prosperity, financing social systems, and promoting innovation. Representatives from politics, business, and academia discuss solutions and explore how migration can be beneficial for both sides.

28 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

Alpbach IDEAS Camp

Become part of Alpbach IDEAS, a one-year journey that bridges the gap between theory and practice and creates a space for experiments and continuous learning. Aspiring changemakers, innovators, and problem solvers are invited to participate in three dynamic workshops called IDEAS Camps. Active participation in all workshops is highly recommended for those interested in joining the Alpbach IDEAS programme in 2024/2025.

- facilitated by Pioneers Innovation

Obrist, Michael; Head of Venture Incubation; Pioneers Innovation; Facilitator

Reuchlin, Philip; Head of Carbon Accounting & Climate; Atlas Metrics; Facilitator

28 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Europe, Believe in Yourself! Ideas to Advance Society

Supported by: Erste Group

We have the European Parliament elections behind us and Austria's national elections ahead. Now's the time for a realistic analysis of the status quo. If we want to ensure our continued prosperity, we need a competitive business environment within a strong Europe. Prioritizing industrial policies and fostering a robust capital market must no longer be seen as alien concepts. What concrete ideas can move us forward as a society?

Herlitschka, Sabine; CEO; Infineon Technologies Austria AG; Speaker

Holzinger-Burgstaller, Gerda; CEO; Erste Bank Österreich; Speaker

Milborn, Corinna; Author | Journalist | Moderator; ProSieben.Sat1.PULS4; Moderator

Neumann, Patricia; CEO; Siemens AG Österreich; Speaker

28 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | Schulhäusl

Enough Is Enough

Track: ART

Right now, an eco-social future where we stay within the limits of our resources seems utopian. A collaborative project that connects science and the arts makes sufficiency tangible.

28 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | CCA Terrasse

Vienna New Deal – Prospects for a Climate-Friendly Future

Supported by: City of Vienna | Track: Climate

The climate crisis affects us in many ways and leads to dystopian visions of the future. The Vienna New Deal aims to counteract this and show prospects for a socio-ecological transformation. To this end, strategies for change will be developed that focus on the common good and climate protection and blueprint for a climate-friendly future, in which all people can lead a good life within the planetary boundaries.

Czernohorszky, Jürgen; Executive City Councillor for Climate, Environment, Democracy and Personnel; City of Vienna; Speaker

Dela Fiamor, Roxana; Speaker

Neubauer, Luisa; Climate Activist & Author; Fridays for Future; Speaker

Tickell, Phoebe; Founder and CEO; Moral Imaginations; Speaker

28 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Shifting Paradigms: Use the Power of Your Personal Climate Handprint

Track: Climate

The escalating climate crisis demands urgent action from as many people as possible. However, when it comes to climate action, many people feel powerless, overwhelmed, and frustrated. Framings that individualise responsibility, along with finger-pointing and blame-games, lead to guilt, repression, and inactivity. We will explore how the term “carbon footprint” has contributed to provoking this situation and how each of us can contribute to positive change effectively by applying the climate handprint concept. //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and sufficient water.

Baunach, Gabriel; Climate Communicator and Author; Speaker

Schwarz, Corina; Energy Expert; AEA - Austrian Energy Agency; Speaker

28 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

Disunited in Diversity: What Role for the EU in the Middle East?

Track: Security

Unlike in the case of the war in Ukraine, the EU has not been able to speak with one voice regarding the war in Gaza. Member states have been criticised for applying double standards regarding the two conflicts. How does this affect Europe’s credibility in the Middle East and beyond and what role can the EU play in fostering a sustainable peace? //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Fitzgerald, Mary; Non-resident scholar; Middle East Institute, Washington DC; Speaker

Hischier, Marion; Program Officer @ Center for Security Studies ETH Zürich / Policy Fellow @ foraus; Center for Security Studies ETH Zürich / foraus; Speaker

Khar, Hina Rabbani; Speaker

Wehler-Schöck, Anja; International Editor; Tagesspiegel; Moderator

28 August 2024 09:00 - 12:30 | Work | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Beyond Money: Improving Your Financial Well-being

Track: Finance

Assess your own financial well-being and learn tricks to improve it using the latest findings from financial well-being research and behavioural science. Gain a more holistic understanding of your financial well-being, learn about the biases that may be holding you back, and get ideas on how to overcome them with simple steps that can go far beyond finances.

Pello, Rauno; Head of Design and Research; ERSTE Foundation; Speaker

Riitsalu, Leonore; Research Fellow in Behavioural Policy; University of Tartu; Speaker

28 August 2024 10:00 - 11:30 | Chat | Hotel Post - Seminarraum

What will the EU get from the accession of Ukraine?

Supported by: ERSTE Foundation | Track: Security

What will the EU get from the accession of Ukraine? Discuss the benefits from Ukraine's accession despite the cost incurred. Current estimates suggest that Ukraine's membership will be bearable for the EU budget, even given the war uncertainty. Ukraine will enhance the EU in the fields of military, energy, agriculture, pharmacy, and IT.

Akulenko, Liubov; Ukrainian Centre for European Policy; Speaker

Lissitsa, Dr. Alex; Dr; Ukrainian Agribusiness Club; Speaker

Maksak, Hennadiy; Foreign Policy Council "Ukrainian Prism"; Speaker

28 August 2024 14:00 - 16:00 | Work | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

Alpbach IDEAS Camp

Become part of Alpbach IDEAS, a one-year journey that bridges the gap between theory and practice and creates a space for experiments and continuous learning. Aspiring changemakers, innovators, and problem solvers are invited to participate in three dynamic workshops called IDEAS Camps. Active participation in all workshops is highly recommended for those interested in joining the Alpbach IDEAS programme in 2024/2025.

- facilitated by Pioneers Innovation

Obrist, Michael; Head of Venture Incubation; Pioneers Innovation; Facilitator

Reuchlin, Philip; Head of Carbon Accounting & Climate; Atlas Metrics; Facilitator

28 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | Schulhäusl

Stop, Look and Listen: Sensing Nature

Track: ART, Climate

Conserving biodiversity and our ecosystem for the future requires respect for and a deeper understanding of the natural world – and it all starts with listening and looking intently. Learn to reconnect more deeply with your environment and your fellow beings by experimenting with sound and found material. Immerse yourself in the sensory environment of the local forest.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Džaferović, Tin; Lecturer, Musician; Freelancer; Artist

Gruber, Christina; artist & freshwater ecologist; Independent; Artist

28 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Europe's Scale-Up Challenge: How to Grow Up in Europe?

Track: Finance

European innovation thrives at the start-up level, yet many promising ventures often stumble at the scale-up stage compared to their US and Scandinavian counterparts. Join an interactive discussion on the financing bottlenecks that European entrepreneurs face when trying to scale up their businesses and find ways to foster a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem that unlocks Europe's investment potential. //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Buchmayr, Daniela; CEO; Sarcura GmbH; Speaker

Polagnoli, Lucanus; CEO; Calm/Storm Ventures; Speaker

Rosen, Monika; Vice President; Austro-American Society; Moderator

Unterdorfer, Hans; Chief Corporates Officer; Erste Bank Oesterreich; Speaker

28 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

Addressing the Paradox: Demographic Trends vs. Migration Fears

Track: Finance, Democracy

Europe's population is ageing, labour markets are evolving and the demand for immigrant labour grows accordingly. Yet concerns and anxieties about migration persist. Join us as we navigate this paradox and examine how societies and governments can strike a balance between tackling demographic imperatives and addressing fears about immigration.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Dalhuisen, John; Senior Fellow; European Stability Initiative; Moderator

Kopf, Johannes; Chairman of the Board; Public Employment Service Austria (AMS); Speaker

Sakbani, Banan; GenC Program Support & Changemaker; Ashoka; Speaker

28 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | CCA Terrasse

Understand Forces of Nature, Experience Disaster Prevention

Supported by: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism | Track: Climate

Torrent and avalanche control ensures the sustainable fulfilment of protection against natural hazards in rural regions. During this practical excursion, participants will gain an insight into the implementation of disaster prevention in Austria and neighbouring countries, visit protective structures and experience how natural disasters are dealt with in a simulation game example.

Totschnig, Norbert; Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management; Republic of Austria; Speaker

28 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | Hotel Post - Seminarraum

Stories Of Transformation – How We Cope With Fundamental Change

Supported by: City of Linz & Chamber of Labour Upper Austria | Track: Climate

Artificial intelligence, climate change: Fundamental changes are forcing us to learn and to adapt – at work, in business and in shaping our society. The experiences of our speakers and guests help us to better understand: How do they deal with fundamental change? Which transformations push them to their limits? Which ones do they see as opportunities?

28 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Demographic Change and Affordable Pensions: Challenges and Prospects

Supported by: Federation of Austrian Industries | Track: Finance

The birth rate is falling, the proportion of older people is rising: Europe and Austria are facing enormous demographic change. These developments are accompanied by new trends and ever-increasing employee mobility. Against this backdrop, the following questions arise: Are European pension systems fit for the future? Are they able to maintain their promise of benefits? Are the social systems keeping pace here? This is a discussion on necessary measures and how politicians can drive forward bold changes despite concerns about votes.

28 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | Feuerwehrhaus

Digital Bridges: Reaching the Marginalized

Supported by: ERSTE Foundation | Track: Democracy

Marginalisation is multidimensional. It includes poverty but also entails a lack of capacity to participate in vital parts of social, economic and cultural life. To reconnect and include this group of people, as society we must innovate our approaches to communication and information, as well as redesign social services. How can we centre our efforts around the needs of marginalised groups? Can digitalisation bridge these divides and foster true inclusion?

28 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Regenerative Agriculture: Debunking an Imaginary Conflict

Track: Climate

Productivity and sustainability are often played off against each other, and so are the interests of the agricultural production system and the natural ecosystem. Hear from actors from the agri-food value chain who have come together across their individual industry silos to transform the system towards a regenerative agriculture. Find out which systemic shifts generate a shared vision among initially unlikely allies.

INFO: Join us for an optional hike after the session to exchange ideas on how you can transfer learnings from the session to your own field of action.

Degn, Ivo; Managing Director; Climate farmers; Speaker

28 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Let Others Wage War For You, Thou, Happy Austria, Stay Neutral?

Track: Security

According to a poll, 72 % of Austrians expect other EU members to defend them in case of a military attack, but only 14 % say that Austria should support other EU members with armed troops. This attitude is also reflected in statements from government officials and could lead to Austria's isolation. Time for an honest discussion about the tension between neutrality and solidarity and the consequences for Austrian security policy.

28 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Green Transformation: Role of Banks, Asset Managers & Businesses

Supported by: Raiffeisen Bank International & Raiffeisen-Landesbank Steiermark | Track: Finance
The green transformation requires joint efforts of banks, asset managers, businesses, and the public sector to redesign our economy. Central aspects include identifying prerequisites, determining actions from stakeholders and understanding financing and the associated costs. The discussion will revolve around the role of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in Austria and Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and around the circular economy.

Brunner, Valerie; Brunner,; Raiffeisen Bank International; Speaker

Lyon, Rosa; Moderator and TV journalist; ORF; Moderator

Schaller, Martin; Generaldirektor; Raiffeisen-Landesbank Steiermark; Speaker

28 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | Böglerhof - Fichtensaal

How Trust runs the World

Supported by: Greiner | Track: Democracy

Trust in business, politics and media is the basis for our coexistence in a society. Trust is necessary to maintain international relations, to strengthen democracy and to enable companies to operate successfully. In times of loss of trust, the following question arises: How can trust be (re)established?

Ivey, Ron; Research Fellow; Harvard Human Flourishing Program, Harvard University; Speaker

Newman, Nic; Senior Research Fellow; Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at Oxford University; Speaker

Praeceptor, Beatrix; CEO; Greiner Packaging; Speaker

Pressl, Damita; Journalist and Moderator; NZZ; Moderator

28 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Countering Far-Right Narratives and the Responsibility of the Centre

Track: Democracy

The resurgence of the far-right presents a significant challenge to democratic values and social cohesion. The political centre plays a crucial role as it oscillates between combating and adopting far-right narratives. In a constructive debate, effective countermeasures and ways to defend our inclusive and democratic societies are to be found.

//INFO: The session will begin with the short film Wind (Robert Loebel, GER 2022, 3:49 min), offering an artistic perspective on the topic of discussion.

Karas, Othmar; First Vice-President; European Parliament; Speaker

Karnitschnig, Matthew; Chief Europe correspondent; POLITICO Europe; Speaker

Lührmann, Anna; Minister of State for Europe and Climate; Federal Republic of Germany; Speaker

Szyszkowitz, Tessa; Author, Journalist and Columnist; Falter; Moderator

Theisen, Esther; Researcher; modus|zad - Centre for Applied Deradicalisation Studies; Speaker

28 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

European Defence: Investing More, Better and European

Track: Finance, Security

In the ongoing war of attrition, Ukraine's ability to defend itself against Russia's attacks depends on Western military assistance. However, US support is stalling and could be further reduced after the elections. This gap has to be filled by European countries which also have to replenish their own arsenals. How can Europe make better use of the potential of its defence industry and deliver what is needed?

Kofman, Michael; Senior Fellow; Carnegie Endowment; Speaker

Kowal, Pawel; Speaker

Zinkanell, Michael Gabriel; Director; Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES); Moderator

28 August 2024 18:30 - 19:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

2100: The End of Democracy?

Track: Democracy

As the world grapples with political, social and technological transformations, fresh visions for the future of democracy need to emerge. Hear three divergent perspectives on the evolution of democracy in the 21st century and challenge the speakers with your questions.

Cesnulaityte, Ieva; Europe's Futures Fellow; IWM; Speaker

Glenny, Misha; Rector; IWM; Speaker

Ludwig, Bettina; Cultural-Anthropologist; Zukunfts.Symposium Eferding; Speaker

Pressl, Damita; Journalist and Moderator; NZZ; Moderator

28 August 2024 20:00 - 21:00 | Happening | Kirche

Rosa Anschütz in Concert

Track: ART

Join us for an evening in the unique surroundings of Alpbach's baroque church. On her hauntingly beautiful and intricately crafted records, Rosa Anschütz combines singing and spoken word with electronic soundscapes, choral arrangements and analogue instruments. Her lyrics explore her environment, and the constant search for the self within that environment.

Anschütz, Rosa; Artist

29 August 2024 04:00 - 09:00 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Sunrise Hike: Gratlspitz

Rise and shine: Enjoy the first rays of sunshine on the top of Alpbach. Experience this special atmosphere and start your day energised!

//INFO: The hike is not recommended for beginners! Please wear hiking boots, bring water and possibly a small snack. Participation at your own risk!

29 August 2024 07:00 - 08:00 | Ritual | CCA Vorplatz

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Supported by: Federal Ministry of Defence

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

29 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

Tomorrow Today: Imagining a Liveable Future

Track: Climate

Imagine what a transformed future will look and feel like – and you have already taken the first step towards it. After a short introduction on the usefulness of applied imagination, in this session participants will explore and co-create narrations of a future where humanity will have successfully achieved the transformation. Share your thoughts on a climate-positive future and the path towards it.

Hoffman, Wakanyi; Senior Research Fellow; The New Institute, Hamburg; Speaker

Neubauer, Luisa; Climate Activist & Author; Fridays for Future; Speaker

Tickell, Phoebe; Founder and CEO; Moral Imaginations; Speaker

Wetzler, Ilana; Moderator

29 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | Volksschule Erdgeschoß 3

Alpbach IDEAS Camp

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- facilitated by Pioneers

Obrist, Michael; Head of Venture Incubation; Pioneers Innovation; Facilitator

Reuchlin, Philip; Head of Carbon Accounting & Climate; Atlas Metrics; Facilitator

29 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | Alphof - Speisesaal

Prosperity and Achievement as the Basis for Social Cohesion

Supported by: Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party | Track: Finance, Democracy

We are facing major upheavals and challenges that cannot be solved without confidence, a commitment to work and a growth mindset. Nevertheless, debates about reducing working hours and degrowth are becoming ever more prevalent without considering the impact on our social systems and the resilience of our societies. However, don't we need innovation, personal responsibility and achievement to secure prosperity and thus strengthen social cohesion and trust in democracy, now more than ever?

Bosbach, Caroline; Federal Chairwoman; Young Economic Council Germany; Speaker

Marguier, Alexandre; Chefredakteur; Cicero. Magazin für politische Kultur; Speaker

Rausch-Amon, Bettina; President of the Political Academy of the People's Party and Member of the National Parliament; Politische Akademie der Volkspartei; Moderator

29 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Rethinking (Wealth) Taxation

Track: Finance, Democracy

The increase in income and wealth inequality poses a serious challenge to impoverished individuals and threatens both social mobility and economic stability. Taxation and other redistributive mechanisms can counteract these dynamics. Explore the crucial role of the state in addressing the dynamics that drive inequality. //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Goldin, Ian; Professor; Oxford University; Speaker

Meierkord, Anja; Labour Market Expert; OECD; Moderator

Schuster, Barbara; Economist; Momentum Institut; Speaker

29 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

Setting the Agenda: EU Reform Priorities for the Next Commission

Track: Democracy

Europe is at a critical juncture ahead of the appointment of the next European Commission. We have to collectively outline EU reform priorities, including potential treaty change, that will shape the future of the continent. Let's jointly explore a course towards a strong and democratic Europe.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Lührmann, Anna; Minister of State for Europe and Climate; Federal Republic of Germany; Speaker

Oberreiter, Thomas; Ambassador; Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU; Speaker

Porschlegel, Sophie; Director of Studies; Europe Jacques Delors; Speaker

Schaidreiter, Raffaella; Head of the Correspondent's Office in Brussels; ORF - Austrian public broadcaster; Moderator

29 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | Hotel Post - Seminarraum

Turn Green: Standing Assets in a Sustainable Future

Supported by: Adomo | Track: Climate

Transforming existing buildings sustainably without forgetting the social aspects is a huge task. We dive into analysis methods, strategies for sustainable management, retrofitting options and much more, to find solutions that can be implemented in reality.

29 August 2024 09:00 - 12:00 | Work | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

The Art of Grand Strategy

Track: Security

Grand Strategy determines how states apply their political, diplomatic, military and economic tools to advance their national interests. After an introduction to the concept, you will work in groups on various aspects of a future EU Grand Strategy. You will discuss how the EU can stabilize Europe, secure its southern flank and keep the world together.

Biscop, Sven; Professor; Egmont Institute & Ghent University; Speaker

29 August 2024 14:00 - 16:45 | Work | Schulhäusl

Utopia Build-a-Box

Track: ART

Reimagine the present and reshape our understanding of tomorrow using the tools of design and storytelling. Build a tool set through creative exercises to imagine positive, collective futures.

Lotze, Johannes; Master Student; Design Investigations, University of applied Arts Vienna; Artist

Neubauer, Angela; Masters Student; Design Investigations, University of applied Arts Vienna; Artist

Schönauer, Stefan; Masters Student; Design Investigations, University of applied Arts Vienna; Artist

29 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | CCA Vorplatz

Untapping Potential and Strengthening Cohesion: Energy Transition in EU Candidate Countries

Track: Climate

Nine countries are currently in line for EU membership, and their EU integration process in terms of climate and energy goals is already underway. By looking at cases from the broader region, this session showcases the opportunities of jointly engaging in the energy transition. It will outline how the EU and candidate countries can together foster cohesion and enhance Europe's energy security and resilience. //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and sufficient water.

29 August 2024 14:00 - 16:30 | Hike | Buswendeplatz

The Externalisation of EU Migration Management: Out of Sight, Out of Mind?

Track: Democracy, Security

In order to curb irregular migration, the EU has concluded several agreements with third countries such as Turkey, Tunisia and most recently Egypt. There are also discussions on transferring asylum seekers to purportedly safe third countries and processing their asylum applications there like the UK plans to do in Rwanda. Does this approach work and is it compatible with European values? //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Dalhuisen, John; Senior Fellow; European Stability Initiative; Moderator

Goldner Lang, Iris; Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law, Head of Department of European Public Law and Vice Dean; University of Zagreb - Faculty of Law; Speaker

Hahn, Helena; Policy Analyst; European Policy Centre; Speaker

Mandl, Lukas (tbc.); Member of the European Parliament; European Parliament; Speaker

29 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Quantum Computing: The Next Superpower?

Track: Finance

Quantum computing promises to disrupt industries and unleash breakthroughs at an unprecedented speed. It is believed to tackle problems beyond imagination – from secure communications to new levels of computing that could bring us life-saving drugs in record time, improved AI performance, and optimised financial markets. But with great power comes great responsibility. Will quantum computing be the key to solving humanity's greatest challenges, and what could be the unforeseen consequences?

Hauser, Hermann; Founding Partner; Amadeus Capital Partners; Speaker

Simic, Ana; CEO | Supervisory Board Member; Engage Technology | ASFINAG | EuroTeleSites AG; Speaker

29 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Confronting Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia in Europe

Track: Democracy

In recent years, Europe has witnessed a concerning resurgence of anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, threatening the fabric of pluralistic societies and undermining the principles of tolerance and peaceful coexistence. The origins, proliferation and impact on society at large and on communities across the continent are explored, seeking effective methods to confront these forms of stereotyping, prejudices and hatred.

Al-Bagdadi, Nadia; University Professor; Central European University; Speaker

Sichrovsky, Ilja; Founder & Director; Muslim Jewish Conference; Speaker

Szyszkowitz, Tessa; Author, Journalist and Columnist; Falter; Moderator

Yüksel, Furkan; Educational officer; Bildungsstätte Anne Frank; Speaker

29 August 2024 14:00 - 15:30 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

How to Govern AI in Austria

Supported by: Microsoft | Track: Democracy

Securing prosperity, seizing opportunities, shaping the future – What is the Austrian strategy for a regulatory framework and successful implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) in business, society and administration?

29 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Looking Back 100,000 Years: Learning for the Future

Track: Climate

This deep dive conversation will explore what we can learn from our ancestors, in particular the Neanderthals, in relation to the current crises of the world. Gain insights on how we have come to define ourselves as humanity based on past evolutions, and on what superpowers we have inherited from our ancestors. What can we learn about the risks of extinction but also about our ancestors' incredible feat of "conquering" the world?

//INFO: The session will begin with the short film High Hopes (Amir Mrzae, FR 2023, 2:45 min), offering an artistic perspective on the topic of discussion.

Johar, Indy; Founder; Dark Matter Labs; Speaker

Ringler, Marie; Vice-President & Global Leadership Group Member; European Forum Alpbach & Ashoka; Chair

Wragg Sykes, Rebecca; Archaeologist & Author; McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge; Speaker

29 August 2024 17:00 - 18:00 | Chat | CCA Schrödinger-Saal

The Incoming European Commission's Agenda on Delivering the Green Transition

Track: Climate, Finance

As Europe moves towards climate neutrality by 2050, the European Commission needs to support EU Member States in implementing reforms that support the green transition and contribute to the achievement of the Green Deal. What are the key priorities and potential stumbling blocks for the new Commission? Find out how citizens, businesses and stakeholders can contribute to the success of the green transition.

Lamy, Pascal; Chairman; Climate Overshoot Commission; Speaker

Moore, Brooke; Policy Analyst; European Policy Centre; Speaker

Rosen, Monika; Vice President; Austro-American Society; Moderator

29 August 2024 18:30 - 19:00 | Ritual | Kirche

Into the Silence: Evening Ritual

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

29 August 2024 18:30 - 19:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Empowering Women and Disadvantaged Groups through Financial Literacy

Supported by: Liechtenstein Group | Track: Finance, Democracy

Access to financial education remains a privilege, particularly for women and socio-economically disadvantaged groups. In Austria, women face a pension gap of 48 % and a wealth gap of 30 % compared to men. Vote for innovative projects that promote financial equity and decide which teams will receive seed funding to further develop their projects.

Strolz, Matthias; Impact Entrepreneur; Büro Dr. Matthias Strolz; Moderator

29 August 2024 20:00 - 23:00 | Social

It's a Wrap!

Another EFA event is coming to an end. We invite you to dance and celebrate, to toast our shared experiences and the new friends we have made. Let us make this evening an unforgettable one – See you on the dance floor!

30 August 2024 07:00 - 08:00 | Ritual | CCA Vorplatz

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Supported by: Federal Ministry of Defence

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

30 August 2024 09:00 - 10:30 | Stage | CCA Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Lead Candidates Debate on Austria's Role in Europe

At the end of the Austria in Europe Days, we take a look at the upcoming parliamentary elections and discuss Austria's role in Europe with representatives of the parliamentary parties.

Babler, Andreas; Federal Party Chairman; SPÖ - Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs; Speaker
Kickl, Herbert (tbc.); Federal Party Chairman; FPÖ - Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs; Speaker
Kogler, Werner; Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport; Republic of Austria; Speaker
Meinl-Reisinger, Beate; Party Leader; NEOS - Das Neue Österreich und Liberale Forum; Speaker
Nehammer, Karl (tbc.); Federal Chancellor; Republic of Austria; Speaker

30 August 2024 10:30 - 13:00 | Happening | CCA Vorplatz

EFA24 Farewell Brunch

Let's say goodbye to an exciting time and take the opportunity to get together once more for a relaxed brunch. Personal highlights, unique experiences, inspiring encounters and intensive discussions: We look forward to hearing your stories! We hope to see you again next year!