

# MEP VIENNA 2014

## European Daily Delegate

### Weather forecast

Sunny  
Max: 22°C  
Min: 8°C

### Programme for Thursday 3/4/2014

**09:00—17:00 h**

General Assembly  
Assembly Hall National Council  
of the Republic of Austria

#### Welcome

Barbara Prammer  
President of the National Council  
of the Austrian Parliament

**10:15—10:45 h**

Coffee break

**13:15—14:15 h**

Lunch for delegates and  
directors/teachers in Parliament

**14:30—17:00 h**

General Assembly  
Nationalratssitzungssaal,  
Parlament

**18:00—20:30 h**

Information reception

The Role of Civil Society

WUK (Werkstätten- und  
Kulturhaus)



## Welcome to Klosterneuburg International School

On Tuesday the delegates were invited to the BG International School Klosterneuburg, where they would finish their resolutions and prepare themselves for the General Assembly. At 8.30 a.m. the participants were welcomed by the School's headmaster Dr. Robert Donner who wished them day full of progressive work. Subsequently, Laura Kmentt, Vice-President of the General Assembly, expressed her excitement about getting the chance to not only present her school but also her hometown to the students from all over Europe. After a few words concerning the history of Klosterneuburg she emphasized the importance of finishing the resolutions and getting ready for the General Assembly and dismissed them to their committees.



## Facts and Figures about Klosterneuburg

- About 25.000 inhabitants
- Evidence shows that it was already used as settlement in the Neolithic period
- In 1113 the Babenberger Leopold III chose the city as Royal Seat
- he also donated the impressive monastery of Klosterneuburg
- Today the city is famous for the “operKlosterneuburg” and the Essl-collection
- it is especial known for traditional Austrian restaurants called “Heurigen”
- Apart from going hiking in the surrounding area it is also possible to try out various activities in the sport center “Happyland”

## Facts about BG/BRG Klosterneuburg

Long after having been established in 1902 the school today disposes of two buildings, one of Austria’s biggest libraries, 48 classes and 1130 students. The school’s aim is to pass on general knowledge and to help the students develop key skills such as independence, team spirit or the ability to be critical. In addition, emphasis is laid on supporting the individual’s skills and interests and on creating understanding of democracy. In order to educate the “whole human” creativity gets highly promoted as well.

The students are provided with a huge number of possibilities to choose from, for instance they are able to decide whether they attend the normal high school or the “Realgymnasium” focusing on science. Moreover, as one of only 3 schools in the entire country the Klosterneuburg International School was authorized as IB world school in 2010. At KIS pupils generally graduate with both the Austrian certificate and the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

As the only partner of the MEP programme in Lower Austria the BG Klosterneuburg is responsible for preparing delegates and sending them to various sessions. Its partner schools are spread over the entire world, for example in Germany or Arizona. 2011 the it was rewarded with the “Leopold Preis des Landes NÖ” and later honored by achieving the “Fairness Award” in 2012. The most famous graduates include the artist Egon Schiele, the actor Otto Wilhelm Fischer as well as the author Bernhard Studlar.

## Meet Rebecca Kmentt



**Question:** Could you tell us a little bit about yourself and your work here at the BG Klosterneuburg?

**Mrs. Kmentt:** I am teaching History and Politics to the International Baccalaureate classes. Furthermore I also teach the extracurricular subject European Studies, where students investigate what exactly being European means and are getting prepared for the Model European Parliament. Though especially right now is a busy time as my last year's are just five weeks away from their final exams I always love and adore teaching.

**Question:** How did you first get in touch with Professor Oehl and the MEP-Programme and what are the tasks you are responsible for?

**Mrs. Kmentt:** I have been co-operating with Professor Oehl and the MEP since I started teaching European Studies in 2011. In order to organise this session we have been having constant contact for the last six months and are even described as "Mrs. And Mr. MEP". Actually it really feels like being married sometimes. My task was, along with many fantastic helpers, to organise the day at our school and together with my husband I am responsible for the presentation of the International Campaign to abolish nuclear weapons that takes place on Thursday. Its topic will be the role of civil society and the relationship between non-governmental and governmental facilities.

**Question:** What are the main obstacles organising such a huge event?

**Mrs. Kmentt:** The enormous amount of details you have to think about every single day. For example, when I arrived at the school today the flags were not yet hoisted.

**Question:** Why do you like being part of the MEP?

**Mrs. Kmentt:** Because you are able to teach the best students.

**Question:** Would you like to give some advice to the delegates?

**Mrs. Kmentt:** Therefore I would like to quote President Obama in his speech to the European Youth, delivered on March 25<sup>th</sup>. "In the end, the success of our ideals comes down to us -- including the example of our own lives, our own societies."

# Committee Updates

## Committee on Culture and Education

---

After having identified issues relating to their topics, the delegates in the Committee on Culture and Education spent a lot of time phrasing ICs out of these issues. These were then discussed and merged wherever possible. After all redundancies had been eliminated, a total of 13 ICs were left.

Next, the CPs asked the delegates to come up with possible solutions for each issue. These were then collected and discussed. As the end of the day neared, the different issues were split up among the delegates so they could formulate proper OCs over night.

The next and final day of the committee meetings, the OCs the delegates had prepared as homework were collected and discussed thoroughly. Of course, every delegate was very eager to defend his or her work but ultimately, 21 OCs were agreed upon.

In the very last minutes of the committee meeting, the speeches were assigned. Many of the delegates were eager to defend the committee's work in front of the General Assembly, but as only four speeches are being held the speakers were elected in a democratic vote.

Overall, the committee has managed to create a very comprehensive resolution that will stand a good chance in the GA.

Lukas Beckerhinn, Student Media Officer

## Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (I)

---

The last day of committee work was mainly driven by time pressure as we had still lots of OCs that needed to be discussed. By compromising the committee however managed to produce a resolution that nearly fell victim to the differences between the office programs between the two hosting schools.

Max Nusser, Student Media Officer

## **Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety**

---

When I first entered our committee room, I did not know what to expect. However, during our numerous and fruitful, yet sincere debates and discussions on the topic of juvenile health, the resolution created by the delegations from 17 different countries, including a well-prepared Malaysia, turned out to be indestructible.

Both of the Committee Presidents did a great job encouraging and supporting the work and they complement one another. Yesterday, for instance, all of us did an outstanding job in finishing the resolution. After ensuring that there are no clangers in it, the CPs proceeded to bombard the delegates with questions concerning the OCs. Subsequently, the committee voted on the representatives who should hold a speech.

I am looking forward to hearing my committee in the GA, because I am sure their resolution will pass.

Nepomuk Trautmannsdorff, Student Media Officer

## **Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (I)**

---

After a reviewing what was achieved the day before, the committee immediately got back to work. Everybody engaged themselves very eagerly in the discussions. Even though it was exhausting, everybody still showed motivation and enthusiasm until the very end. This is how we managed to get more really promising OCs.

On the third day our committee completed our resolution. Everybody was proud to have contributed to the resolution. Human trafficking is undoubtedly a serious issue and hard to solve, but I believe that our resolution could make a difference to the current situation.

Ha Un Chung, Student Media Officer

## Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

---

Wind Farms, fixed costs of energies, solar panels and the use of hydropower, those are the topics the committee on Industry, Research and Energy has been having great ideas about. The delegates have shown tremendous motivation throughout the second and third day of committee meetings and their resolution has been growing and growing. The committee itself represents a group of surprisingly well prepared and perfectionist youths, with an evenly spread amount of interest in the topic. Although the decision progress on keeping or deleting IC's and OC's always took its time, they were always willing to find a compromise that would improve and strengthen the resolution. All in all, the committee consists of a productive group of delegates, who hopes to be able to defend and forward their resolution to the European Commission after the upcoming GA.

Sophie Pramann, Student Media Office

## The Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

Although the first day of committee meetings started off well, the pace picked up even more in the next two days. The delegates debated the major points of the resolution and worked on all the weak links. In the end, a full resolution was completed and the committee had a full hour to spare. The committee presidents assigned the speeches to the different delegates, based on who got the most votes, and they then did a full General Assembly run-through, complete with impromptu speeches, factual questions and debating. The delegates were assigned different Operational Clauses to work on at home and prepare for the GA on Thursday and Friday.

Rebecca Gösker, Student Media Officer

## Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (II)

---

The next days the discussion on the very recent topic of immigration and minorities was taken to the next level. After coming up with 10 ICs and 11 OCs the delegates had to face a very important question: "Who is going to write the speech?"

All in all one must admit that the committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II is a group of very enthusiastic delegates that will surely come up with a great resolution.

Anna Weihs, Student Media Officer

## Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (II)

---

On Monday, after having attended the opening ceremony and having enjoyed the famous Viennese Schnitzel in the restaurant "Rathauskeller" the delegates continued to work on their resolution. That day the atmosphere was much more relaxed due to the fact that they had gotten to know each other even better.

The question that the committee was trying to solve included finding a way for the European Union to cope with a greying population and the consequent effects on the labour market, the pension and social welfare system. Right from the beginning the issues were intensively debated until the controversial subject of the stressed-out health care system came up. To ease the situation the delegate from Latvia informed the committee of an ongoing project in California, where a city that is only inhabited by the elderly, is being built. The British Committee President gave a rather hilarious response: "We can give them Scotland!", he said. Subsequently the whole committee bursted into laugh.

The next day the question of how to rejuvenate society was dealt with. On that occasion the delegate from Macedonia told the others about a TV advertisement, which is shown in his home country, paid by the government and basically states: "Have fun and have children, or have both!" With that in mind it was easy for the committee to work out the most essential measures that have to be taken in the EU in order to increase the birth rate.

All in all, the committee on Employment and Social Affairs (II) elaborate a brilliant resolution during intense hours of discussion without losing its sense of humor. I had a great time reporting on the occurrences during the committee meetings and I wish the delegates all the best for the General Assembly.

Thomas Caganek, Student Media Officer

## Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

---

After having worked 3 days with my committee I can say that they all have done an amazing job. Nearly everyone showed his or her passion for the topic of Gender Equality .

By having been the first committee to finish the resolution it was obvious that our teamwork was great. The OCs are defendable and thanks to our great CP Yannis and CP sec Lisa, who were always working side by side, the committee learned what to say in every situation and how to defend the resolution.

We finished the last committee meeting with a teambuilding game, so that shortly before the GA the delegates would know whom they were working with and grow together as a team.

So after all, even though I know that the resolution of the Committee on Women's Rights hardly ever passes, I'm confident that ours stands a good chance.

Charlotte Krauss, Student Media Officer

## Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (III)

---

A new day, new surprises. It was so exciting since the discussion heated. All the delegate put in effort to contribute and finish the resolution. In the end, there was some practice for the GA. The committee should now be prepared for all possible questions at the open debate. Let the game begin!

Megfan Böhm, Student Media Officer

## Approval Panel

After a delicious lunch in the awe-inspiring cellars of the Klosterneuburg monastery, the Committee presidents and coordinators went back to the Klosterneuburg International School to have a last look at the resolutions the various committees had worked hard on during the previous few days. Every CP teamed up with a coordinator to look at the resolution their committee had agreed on. The resolutions were thoroughly scanned for any mistakes or ambiguities. Appendices were added, sentences were restructured and examples were included but overall, everybody was very satisfied with the delegates' work and is now looking forward to the GA, which will start on Thursday.



## Guided Scenic Bus Tour

While heading towards their first destination, the Schönbrunn palace, the delegates were informed about the beautiful landscape surrounding the “blue” danube. After awing the vienesse skyscrapers, such as the danube tower, from afar they were greeted by the sight of Vienna’s incineration plant, which was designed by the world-famous architect Friedensreich Hundertwasser. Right before arriving at Schönbrunn, Austria’s most visited sight, and moreover the former summer residence of the Habsburgers the guide explained that the house consists of 1441 rooms and the beautiful gardens have evolved out of a huge hunting area. After exploring just those breathtaking gardens for one hour, enjoying the view from the Gloriette on the hill opposite the palace, or merely sitting on the buildings staircase chatting, the delegates who were not being awaited at the embassy moved on towards the



old part of the city, driving past the Wienzeile, the Naschmarkt and the Secession with its dome teasingly called the “Golden Cabbage” by the inhabitants. According to the guide there are three opera houses, fifty theaters and loads of museums, including a chocolate and a “Schnaps” museum, located in Austria’s Capital. While passing the Karlskirche the participants were told that it had been designed by Johann Bernhard Fischer, who had also been the architect of Schönbrunn palace. Driving down Vienna’s most famous street, the Ringstraße they spotted the State opera, which had been built in

cooperation of an Austrian and a Hungarian architect. They watched the Cafe Sacher, home of the delicious dessert “Sachertorte”, the Albertina art gallery and a memorial against war and fascism pass by and eventually reached the Habsburger’s former winter residence, the Hofburg. The delegates also caught a glimpse of the Parliament, where the General Assembly is taking place on Thursday and Friday and the town hall, where they had been the day before. As the trip ended at the university built in 1365 the still astonished delegates left in small groups in order to stroll to the city and have dinner together.



# Wednesday

## Coffee House Meeting

---



At 8.30 a.m. the various delegations met in a number of Vienna's most famous Cafe's, where they received their Resolution booklets. Between eating cake or Strudel and drinking marvelous coffee the delegates analysed each resolution, detecting weak or not properly formulated points and deciding on where to support or to attack the other committees' resolutions. The first ideas for preparing amendments were collected and delegations began to unite forces and to make deals. They were supported in their thoughts and preparations by their accompanying teachers and as midday arrived everyone was already waiting the Lobbying with great expectations.

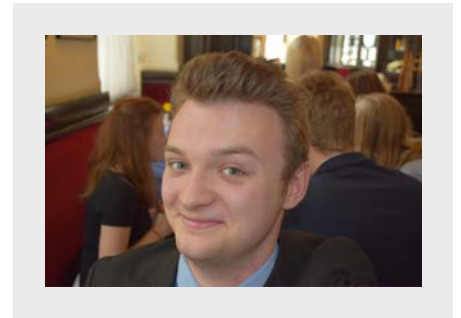
## Guided Walking Tour

---

After having discussed the resolutions the whole morning the delegates were able to escape politics for a short period during a guided walking tour to a handful of Vienna's most important sights. The tour was organized by volunteers attending the Theresianische Akademie, who led the participants through the city and provided some information about every sight. Starting directly in front of the Cafe Griensteidl the first sight were the fabulous Michael Gate of the Hofburg's "Winterreitschule", the Michael square in front of it and the ancient Roman Ruins sitting just next to the street. The audience was shocked by information that two years ago a carriage fell into the exhibition pit because of panicking panicking horses. At the plaque monument the speakers informed the delegates not only about the horrific results of the "Black Death" but also about the entertainer Marcus Augustin who lived in that period. After having been mistaken for being dead he was thrown in the pit along with the dead victims of the plague. Amazingly he survived and was rescued after drawing attention by blowing his back pipe. In the end he became a symbol of hope for the population due to his unbelievable survival. Passing by the city's emblem the St. Stephens Cathedral, which had been terribly damaged during World War II the guide stopped at the oldest square in town, the Neuermarkt, where the Habsburger crypt is located. Furthermore the delegates were led to the Cafe Sacher, which is located right in front of the impressive opera house. Damaged during the war and rebuilt in the 1950ies it is now home to the Vienna Philharmonic orchestra. Following a short stop at the Albertina gallery the WW II exhibition in the national library was visited. While wandering between endlessly high shelves packed with the most precious books and looking at the posters and exhibits displayed in the vitrines it was almost possible to get a glimpse at what life must have been during the war. When leaving the exhibition most delegates seemed quiet and lost in his own thoughts.



# Meet Mr. President



**Question:** How did you first get to know the MEP-Programme?

**Sebastian Saxinger:** In our school, the Theresianische Akademie, you can choose the subject Political Education/MEP and subsequently I got in touch with the MEP-Programme. However, I never participated as a delegate in a national MEP but went on a **Model United Nations** first.

**Question:** Where and when did your first (inter)national session take place?

**Sebastian Saxinger:** My first MEP session was the international one in Madrid in 2012. There I participated as delegate whereas at my first national session in Graz in 2013 I had already the honour to be a CP.

**Question:** Which session did you like the most?

**Sebastian Saxinger:** I really cherished the food in Graz but I actually had the greatest fun in Vilnius.

**Question:** What is the most precious experience you earned during the MEP sessions?

**Sebastian Saxinger:** I guess that would be talking in front of people. For example, when I was delivering the opening speech in Madrid I was extremely afraid but everything went well and our solution passed. And that's just a great experience.

**Question:** What tasks do you have to fulfil as president of the General Assembly?

**Sebastian Saxinger:** Along with the Vice- presidents I will be chairing the GA and during the committee meetings we watch their progress, help the CPs and give advice how to improve their work. Moreover, we supported the organisers of the session.

**Question:** What are you planning to do after your graduation?

**Sebastian Saxinger:** After traveling around the world I will start my civil service, which is mandatory in Austria. Subsequently I am planning on studying economics in Switzerland.

**Question:** Do you want to tell the delegates something, as to give them a piece of advice for example?

**Sebastian Saxinger:** To return to my opening speech on Monday: "**Raise your voice, be heard and have fun. Cheers!**"

# Stay tuned!

## Programme for Friday 4/4/2014

### 09:00—17:00 h

General Assembly  
Assembly Hall National Council of the Republic  
of Austria

### 10:30—10:45 h

Coffee break

### 13:15—14:15 h

Lunch for delegates and coordinators/directors/  
teachers in Parliament

### 17:00—17:30 h

Closing Ceremony of the Model European  
Parliament Vienna

#### Speakers

Othmar Karas  
Vice President of the European Parliament  
Hannes Swoboda  
MEP, Pres. Prog. Alliance of Soc/Dem.  
Sonsoles Castellano  
Member of the Model European Parliament  
Organisation Board  
Anna van Sminia  
Hon. Secretary-General of MEP Foundation  
Gottfried Oehl  
Chairman MEP Austria  
Sebastian Saxinger, Laura Kmentt, Alexander  
Brenn, Lukas Joura  
Presidents of the General Assembly of the  
Model European Parliament

### 20:00-02:30 h

European Ball For Peace

## First draft of the MEP Committee Order

1. Industry Research and Energy
2. Foreign Affairs
3. Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs III
4. Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs I
5. Employment and Social Affairs II
6. Culture and Education
7. Women's Rights and Gender Equality
8. Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
9. Employment and Social Affairs I
10. Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs II

## Impress

*Emil Nusser*

*Alena Rottensteiner*

*Megfan Böhm*

*Maximilian Nusser*

*Thomas Caganek*

*Nepomuk Trautmannsdorff*

*Lukas Beckerhinn*

*Ha Un Chung*

*Anna Weihs*

*Charlotte Krauss*

*Rebecca Gösker*

*Georg Gangoly*