

BE OPEN

Science & Society Festival
8-12 September 2018, Maria-Theresien-Platz



FWF
Der Wissenschaftsfonds.
www.fwf.ac.at/beopen

Patron:
Federal President
Alexander Van der Bellen

The festival took place as part
of the Austrian presidency of
the EU Council.

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= Bundesministerium
Bildung, Wissenschaft
und Forschung

In cooperation with numerous
partners from science, research,
business and media



Ideas & impact

The Austrian Science Fund FWF took its 50th anniversary as an opportunity to launch the “BE OPEN – Science & Society Festival” together with partners from science, research, business and society. The festival invited the public to be curious, join in and learn more about basic research.

A cross-section of Austria's best researchers and their teams gave an insight into their pioneering work. Future issues facing science and society were discussed in a dialogue arena. An extensive programme for children, families and schools offered young people the opportunity to dive into the world of basic research. With this festival, the FWF aimed to strengthen confidence in science and emphasize the importance of basic research.

The festival aroused curiosity in top research, was the prelude to new collaborations with stakeholders and cast the spotlight on European cooperation.

We are delighted to have had more than 30,000 visitors on site and hundreds of thousands of readers, listeners and viewers of the radio and TV broadcasts.

Our thanks go to all participating researchers, partner organisations and sponsors. Together we have succeeded in setting a clear signal for top research in Austria.

The Executive Board of the Austrian Science Fund

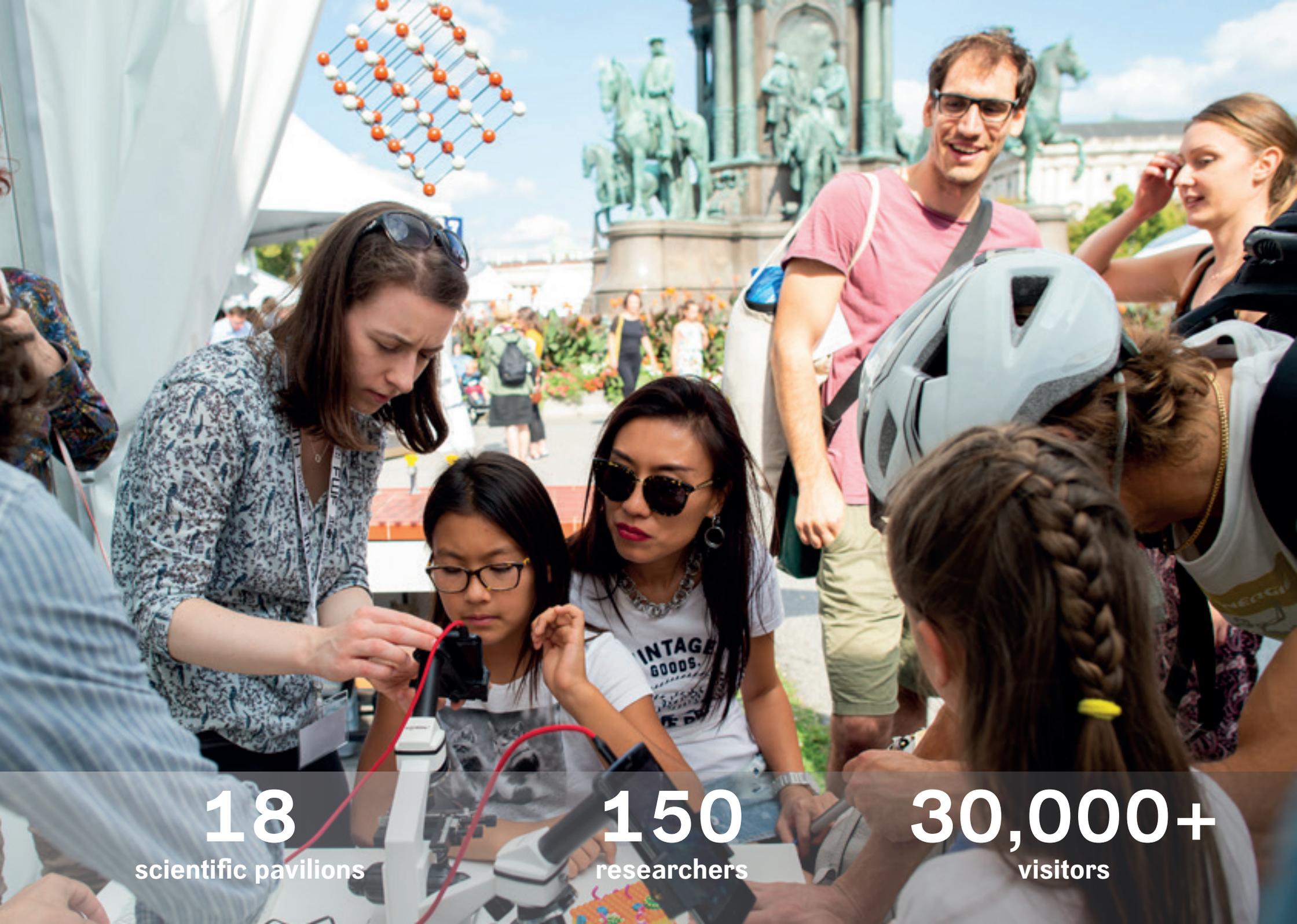
Klement Tockner
(President)

Gerlinde Mautner
(Scientific
Vice-President)

Gregor Weihs
(Scientific
Vice-President)

Ellen Zechner
(Scientific
Vice-President)

Artemis Vakianis
(Executive
Vice-President)



18

scientific pavilions

150

researchers

30,000+

visitors

30+

partners from science,
research and society

50+

hours of dialogue

500,000+

reach in partner
communities





4

ORF TV and
radio broadcasts

250+

media and
social media reports

750,000+

readers, listeners
and viewers

Free knowledge for free people

Federal President Alexander Van der Bellen opened the five-day festival together with Federal Minister Heinz Faßmann, cultural scientist Aleida Assmann and FWF President Klement Tockner. In his speech, the Federal President stressed values such as openness and curiosity as cornerstones of research.

BEWUNDREN



Eröffnungsmatinee

Opening & Matinee
#beopen

Organizer

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

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Curtain up for top research from Austria

Federal Minister Heinz Faßmann referred to the role of research as a fuel for future developments, while Aleida Assmann (left) made a passionate plea for interdisciplinary dialogue. When asked why we need basic research, FWF President Klement Tockner answered that “basic research is an insurance policy for society in order to be able to meet the challenges of the future.”





Garden of curiosity and fascination

Whether a thousand-year-old tree trunk, a glance through an electron microscope or measuring muscle strength to determine life expectancy – numerous objects and exhibits (the picture shows a mycelium from the “Living Architecture” pavilion) made the latest findings from top Austrian research tangible. In the 18 pavilions, hundreds of dialogues and conversations developed about research ideas and their effects on everyday life.

Basic research up close and personal

Researchers from all over Austria came together to give an insight into their work. The chemist Halime Coskun Aljabour (right in the picture), university assistant at the University of Linz, was one of 150 researchers who used the pavilions to communicate complex questions of basic research in a clear and easily understandable way. In addition to discussions with researchers and objects to experience first-hand, large display boards in each pavilion offered more in-depth information.





On the trail of novelty

At the festival, pioneers (in the picture, the entrepreneurs Miriam Unterlass and Helmut List) discussed how innovation comes into the world. With numerous supporters, including the main partners Boehringer Ingelheim and AVL List, the festival focused on future issues between science, business and society.



Clear the stage for researchers

The biologist Eva Ringler (University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna) presented her research work in a very entertaining way at the "Science & Entrepreneurship Slam." The Hertha Firnberg fellow was one of a total of 50 colleagues from science and research who spent five days in the FWF Arena discussing scientific questions in dialogue with the audience.

Are animals smart?

Each pavilion was asked to develop one exciting research question. With a little “animal assistance,” the team from the “Behaviour & Cognition” research area led by behavioural scientist Thomas Bugnyar provided the answer to the question of whether animals are smart. The cognitive scientist Ludwig Huber (left in the picture, holding the microphone) demonstrated first-hand the learning capability and problem-solving ability of a border collie.



Incoming oder Outgoing?

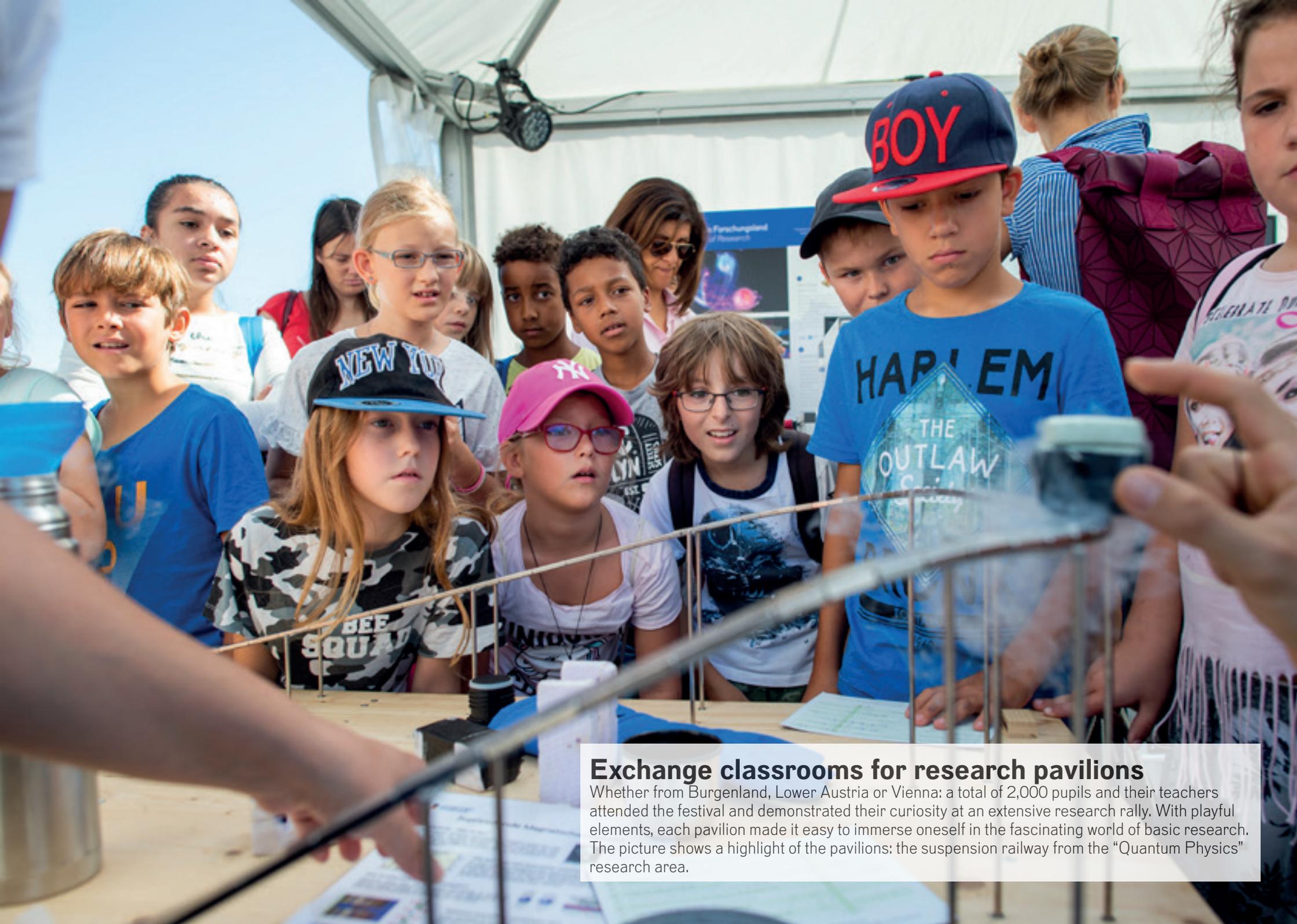
Parallel to the festival programme, the FWF organised several networking meetings, including a “class reunion” of numerous researchers from the FWF mobility programmes. Among them was Tanja Konecny, who reported on her experiences as part of the Schrödinger Programme at the University of Maastricht and showed that numerous scientific achievements are based on cross-border cooperation and collaboration.





The big challenges in focus

With Sigrid Stagl (Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration) and Keywan Riahi (IIASA), two renowned experts exchanged views about the consequences of climate change. In a discussion hosted by the Ö1 journalist Birgit Dalheimer, they presented arguments and theories far from the media hysteria. A lively debate with numerous questions from the audience demonstrated the great interest in the scientific dialogue. The videos of all sessions are available at www.fwf.ac.at/beopen



Exchange classrooms for research pavilions

Whether from Burgenland, Lower Austria or Vienna: a total of 2,000 pupils and their teachers attended the festival and demonstrated their curiosity at an extensive research rally. With playful elements, each pavilion made it easy to immerse oneself in the fascinating world of basic research. The picture shows a highlight of the pavilions: the suspension railway from the “Quantum Physics” research area.

May I ask...?

In 2011, Gerhard J. Herndl (right) won the Wittgenstein Award. The world-renowned marine biologist spent a lot of time at the festival discussing the latest findings in deep-sea research and answering visitors' questions in dialogue.



BEWIND OPEN

SCIENCE & SOCIETY FESTIVAL

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Festival on air

Clear the stage for children and their tricky questions! The "Radio Wien" live broadcast brought the festival to the breakfast tables of Vienna – children asked their research questions and the smart rat Rolf Rüdiger and moderator Robert Steiner tried to find the answers.



Research ideas are in the air

The "Mobile Physics" unit entertained festival visitors with surprising effects, explosive experiments and a lot of bangs and smoke. The picture shows the launch of a research rocket, seconds before it blasts off into the sky.



A musical premiere

The Vienna Science, Research, Education and Technology Fund presented a special musical gift as the prelude to a round table discussion on the topic of “50 years of top research” – the ensemble of musicians led by composer Christof Dienz set the stage for a look back on some highlights and milestones of the history of Austrian research with the premiere of their piece, “Frisch wie Feuer” (fresh as fire), which was composed specifically for this event.



Advancement and awards

Top manager Gundi Wentner (left in the picture) pricks up her ears and listens to the arguments of scientist Julia Grillmayr from the University of Art and Design Linz. The discussion under the title of “Courage, Power & Quotas” focused on the situation of women in science. After the debate, Julia Grillmayr and twenty other colleagues received the Hertha Firnberg and Elise Richter Awards.

A group of people in professional attire are engaged in conversation at a formal event. In the foreground, a man in a dark blue suit is seen from the side, looking towards a man in a dark suit and glasses who is smiling. In the background, another man in a dark suit and glasses is visible. To the right, a woman in a white blouse is gesturing with her hands while talking to a woman in a red patterned dress. The setting appears to be an indoor space with a large abstract artwork on the wall.

Leading researchers meet Austrian leader

As part of the festival, Federal Chancellor Sebastian Kurz invited top researchers, including the START and Wittgenstein Award winners, to a get-together at the Federal Chancellery. START Award winner and geologist Gina E. Moseley from the University of Innsbruck (right) used the opportunity to emphasize the important role of basic research for Austria in a conversation with Federal Chancellor Sebastian Kurz and FWF President Klement Tockner.

Diverse partner program

The Austrian University Conference (uniko) was one of several partner organisations that enriched the festival with their own programme items. The picture shows the podium guests of the event organised by uniko. In addition, CERN and ÖAWI also hosted partner events.



Europe in focus

The START and Wittgenstein celebrations at the end of the festival were dedicated entirely to Europe and international cooperation: DFG President Peter Strohschneider, EU Commissioner Carlos Moedas, BMBWF Secretary General Jakob Calice, Gregor Weihs, Klement Tockner, Artemis Vakianis and Ellen Zechner (all FWF Executive Board, from left to right) exchanged views on close cooperation at the European level.



Learning from the best

Awards such as the renowned Wittgenstein Award pay tribute to the achievements of excellent scholars and scientists. The award ceremony marks another highlight of many scientific careers and provided the ceremonial conclusion to this year's festival. In addition to the mathematician Herbert Edelsbrunner (IST Austria), the ethnomusicologist Ursula Hemetek (mdw, left in the picture) also received Austria's highest endowed science award from the hands of EU Commissioner Carlos Moedas (right in the picture). Congratulations!



Dem Neuen auf der Spur

Radio Wien Programmdirektorin Jasmin Dorak hat Züge des Big Open Kongress am Samstag um 16:30 zu einem Talk Spezial gemacht. Es ging um „Forschung und Innovationen in der Zukunft“.

Am Diskussionspodium hat Jasmin hochkarätige Experten zum spannenden Thema Post-Gen-Zeit befragt. Ihre Gäste sind: Physiker, CEO und Universitätsprofessor und Quantenphysiker Markus Aspöckler, die Philosophin Katharina Lachner, der indische Helmut Ull und die Chemikerin Dr. Miriam Unterkofler.



Radio Wien Programmdirektorin Dorak mit den Experten im Gespräch. Das „Big Open - Science & Society Festival“ ist eine Veranstaltung des Wissenschaftsforums im Rahmen der Österreichischen EU-Forschungsförderung und unter dem Schutz der Bundespräsidentin Alexander Van der Bellen.

Wissenschaft wird hier den Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftlern gefördert, Forscherinnen und Forscher stellen gemeinsam mit ihren Teams in verschiedenen Pavillons Forschungsfragen vor und laden ein, Objekte und Experimente auszuprobieren.



In Pavillons sind die Besucher an Maria Theresien-Platz zum Festival eingeladen. Talk Spezial zum Nachhören: 06.05.2018



Arbeiten im Nationalen Gesundheitsdienst

Public Value Service 2017/18

Public Value Service 2017/18

Public Value Service 2017/18

Forschung und Vertrauen

Zusammen mit einer vielfältigen Teamarbeit...



Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftler

Das Festival wird von der...

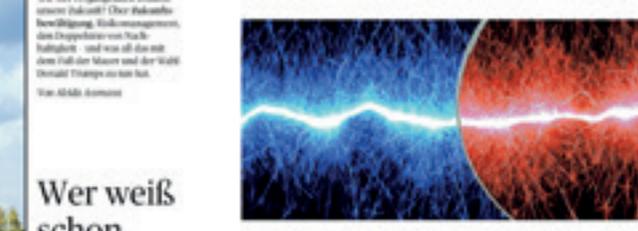


Wer weiß schon, was kommt?

Ein Text discussing future trends and uncertainty.

Ein Projektentwickler seiner Hoffnungen und Wünsche, so wie der Zukunft der Gegenwart der Tage und Vorzüge geworden.

Ein Text discussing project development and future prospects.



Königsdisziplin der Wissenschaft

Der Wissenschaftsbund, Österreichs zentrale Agentur zur Förderung...

Ein Text discussing the importance of science and research funding.

Ein Text discussing the role of science in society and the future.

„Den Elfenbeinturm gibt es so nicht“

Ein Text discussing the concept of the ivory tower and its relevance to modern society.

Science-Festival: Wissenschaft zum Mitmachen

Ein Text discussing the Science Festival and its interactive nature.

The festival in the media spotlight

Thanks to the comprehensive coverage of numerous media outlets, the festival was able to reach a wide audience. ORF broadcast a total of four programme items on radio and TV, including a special “Radio Wien” programme and an ORF Dialogue Forum.

Ein Text discussing the media coverage of the festival and its impact on the public.

We thank all our partners and sponsors!

Patron: Federal President Alexander Van der Bellen

Part of the Austrian Presidency of the EU Council



Organizer



Institutional Partner



Scientific Partners & FWF-Funded Research Institutions

Akademie der bildenden Künste Wien / Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt / Austrian Institute of Technology / Christian Doppler Forschungsgesellschaft / Donau-Universität Krems / Institut für molekulare Pathologie / Institute of Molecular Biotechnology / Institute of Science and Technology Austria / Universität Linz / Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien / Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft / Medizinische Universität Graz / Medizinische Universität Innsbruck / Medizinische Universität Wien / Montanuniversität Leoben / Naturhistorisches Museum Wien / Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften / Paris-Lodron-Universität Salzburg / Technische Universität Graz / Technische Universität Wien / Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien / Universität für Bodenkultur Wien / Universität für künstlerische & industrielle Gestaltung Linz / Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Graz / Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien / Universität Graz / Universität Innsbruck / Universität Mozarteum Salzburg / Universität Wien / Veterinärmedizinische Universität Wien / Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien / and many more

Main Partners



Event Partners



Media Partners



Supporting Partners



As well as



We thank the pavilion teams!

Numerous Austrian researchers are world leaders in their field. The festival brought some of them and their teams together in one place for five days. Thank you very much for your dedication and commitment!

- **Are animals smart?** Thomas Bugnyar (University of Vienna)
- **How to move an atom?** Ulrike Diebold (Vienna University of Technology)
- **How much science does art need?** Martina Grießer (Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna)
- **How does the deep sea relate to Austria?** Gerhard Herndl (University of Vienna)
- **Is our body a techno-biological machine?** Gerhard A. Holzapfel (Graz University of Technology)
- **What do 40,000 years of migration mean?** Barbara Horejs (Austrian Academy of Sciences)
- **Will we be living in self-growing houses?** Barbara Imhof (University of Applied Arts Vienna / LIQUIFER Systems Group)
- **How to reveal what lies hidden?** Franz Kerschbaum (University of Vienna)
- **What role does reason play in the economy?** Michael Kirchler (University of Innsbruck)
- **What can stem cells do?** Jürgen A. Knoblich (Austrian Academy of Sciences)
- **Who speaks and spoke to whom and how?** Alexandra Lenz & Melanie Malzahn (University of Vienna)
- **How is the population changing?** Wolfgang Lutz (Vienna University of Economics and Business/ IIASA/Austrian Academy of Sciences)
- **Can atoms be cold?** Hanns-Christoph Nägerl (University of Innsbruck)
- **Can we break our reliance on oil, gas and coal?** Niyazi Serdar Sarıçiftçi (University of Linz)
- **Why is cancer so diverse?** Maria Sibilia & Veronika Sexl (Medical University Vienna/University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna)
- **Do alpine glaciers have a future?** Christoph Spötl (University of Innsbruck)
- **Why does my body react so hypersensitively?** Rudolf Valenta (Medical University Vienna)
- **How can computers recognize music?** Gerhard Widmer (University of Linz)



Imprint: Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF), Haus der Forschung, Sensengasse 1, 1090 Vienna, office@fwf.ac.at, +43 1 505 67 40; Pictures: Luiza Puiu, Andrei Pungovschi, Petra Pesak

Get in touch with us!

We look forward to your feedback on the "BE OPEN – Science & Society Festival". Share your opinion with us and let us know what you particularly liked: office@fwf.ac.at

See you soon!

Klement Tockner (President) & Artemis Vakianis (Executive Vice-President)

The logo for the BE OPEN festival features the words "BE OPEN" in large, colorful, stylized letters. The letter "E" is blue, "O" is yellow, and "P" is green. The word "OPEN" is in a similar style. A central graphic consists of multiple overlapping, colorful lines in shades of blue, green, yellow, and red, forming a starburst or network-like pattern.

Society Festival, 8.–12. September 201

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