OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH FUNDING ▷ PAGE 54

We fund the future

A package of measures to enable the rapid further development of the innovation system

▷ PAGE 21

PRIZEWINNERS PAGE 28

EXECUTIVE BOARD'S REPORT

"Knowledge-driven research is an essential prerequisite for a country's progress."

▷ PAGE 8

Achievements: review of 2017

More resources for top-notch research, new programmes and innovative formats, quality improvement and increased cooperation

▷ PAGE 15

BASIC RESEARCH

FWF ANNUAL REPORT 2017

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

Objective Open Science

▷ PAGE 20

The FWF is a pioneer in, and model for, Open Science on the basis of free access to data and publications.

AT A GLANCE

THE FWF IN FIGURES

▷ PAGE 6

OUR MISSION

The ongoing development of basic research in Austria in line with the highest international standards

▷ PAGE 2

FWF programmes

▷ PAGE 42

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

Contents

For half a century the Austrian Science Fund (FWF), the country's main research-support agency, has promoted the highest quality of standards in research funding and top-class, open-ended research in all disciplines.

FWF
Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

Submitted to the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research as required by the Research and Technology Promotion Act, Section 2b, Paragraph 3

Our mission

The FWF's mission is to support the ongoing development of basic research in Austria in line with the highest international standards. In pursuing that aim, the FWF makes a significant contribution to Austria's cultural enrichment, to its development as a knowledge-based society and thus to creating value and prosperity in the country.

Our goals

To further improve Austria's research performance on the international stage and to increase the country's attractiveness as a research location, primarily by funding top-class research conducted by both individuals and teams, but also by helping to enhance the competitiveness of Austria's research facilities and its innovation system as a whole.

To strengthen links and foster interaction between scholarly research and all other fields of economic, social and cultural activity, and in particular to enhance the standing of basic research through concerted, long-term public-relations work.

To heighten Austria's research potential, both qualitatively and quantitatively, in line with the principle of research-based education.

Basic principles

1 Excellence and competition

The FWF's funding activities focus on research devoted to generating fresh knowledge, the quality of which is assessed by international referees on a competitive basis.

2 Independence

Creativity in basic research requires freedom. Thanks to its legally independent status, the FWF is able to shield researchers from the direct influence of interest groups and so guarantee that freedom.

3 Internationality

The FWF is guided by the highest standards of the international academic community and supports cooperation across national borders.

4 Equal treatment of all disciplines

The FWF treats all researchers according to the same principles, neither favouring nor discriminating against particular disciplines.

5 Transparency and fairness

In order to ensure acceptance of its activities, the FWF is at pains to avoid conflicts of interest, to build in checks and balances at all stages of its procedures and to communicate clearly its practices and decision-making process.

6 Gender mainstreaming

Ensuring the equality of all researchers, regardless of gender, is a priority for the FWF, which it pursues through specific programmes and by practising gender mainstreaming in all areas of its work.

7 Equal opportunities

The FWF assesses all the applications for funding it receives without regard to the applicant's position or academic title.

8 Ethical standards

The FWF is committed to ensuring, within its sphere of influence, that the rules of sound research practice and internationally recognised ethical standards are scrupulously observed.

The FWF 2017

The most important figures at a glance

€879.4m
in funding requested

2,493
funding decisions

€217.3m
of new grants awarded

642
projects approved

23%
of new grants awarded to projects in the humanities and social sciences

36%
of new grants awarded to projects in biology and medicine

41%
of new grants awarded to projects in the natural sciences and engineering

4,078
project staff members

€3.3m
of funding for publications

2,370
ongoing projects

6,439
refereed publications from FWF projects

15,221
reviews requested

90%
of publications on open access

4,701
reviews received

12
ongoing ERA-NET projects

Laying the foundations

CHAPTER 1

Values, Trust, Prospects

Free and independent scholarship forms part of the foundations of an enlightened society. However, of late, these foundations have been badly shaken. "Alternative facts", as well as economic, ideological and political interest groups, have been forcing well-founded knowledge aside. The consequence is a huge loss of trust that is having an effect on many aspects of society and is opening up cracks in the fundamentals of democracy.

The FWF is particularly concerned to counteract the tendency for scholarly evidence and popular perception to drift apart. It believes that defending scholarly freedom means including the public and the media more than ever before in the research process, thereby ensuring maximum transparency. The scholarly community must seek to connect the gathering of knowledge to social responsibility.

Ultimately, mutual trust means that civil society is prepared to explore the new avenues opened up by scholarship and to accept that some of the projects will fail.

The Science Fund

The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) is the country's main agency supporting basic research. Its funding activities focus on top-notch research across all disciplines, the quality of which is guaranteed by international reviews. The FWF's goals are to further improve Austria's research and economic performance on the international stage and to increase the country's attractiveness as a research location. At the same time, the fund seeks to heighten Austria's research potential, both qualitatively and quantitatively, in line with the principles of research-based education, and to foster dialogue between the research community and the economic, social and cultural spheres.

Where does research stand in Austria?

Today, more than ever before, we are faced with the task of responding to major issues and social challenges apparent around the world, including digitalisation, climate and demographic change, and political tendencies that undermine democracy. Only through knowledge-driven research will we be able to counter these developments by offering factual evidence, innovation and prospects for the future. Recent figures from the European Commission[1] underline the vital importance of investment in research and development. They show that almost two-thirds of economic growth in Europe is based on innovation. In addition, public investment in research generates fresh knowledge and new skills: the total annual rate of return on public monies invested in research is some 20%.

However, the necessary resources alone will not suffice to make Austria a leader in research and innovation. For that, more will be needed: a clear vision and the world's best – and that means the world's most creative – brains. The chance to join international research networks will also play a key role. The world's top universities are still to be found in Britain and America, with centres of excellence increasingly found in East and South Asia. Keeping up with them will require, across Europe, a clear commitment to top-level research, innovative approaches to research, and cooperation across disciplinary and national borders.

Research in Austria
High input – middling output

At 3.14% of GDP, Austria's spending on research and development is the second highest in the EU (after Sweden). As a result, recent years have seen it make up a lot of ground in terms of output. On the latest European Innovation Scoreboard (EIS 2017), Austria jumped to 7th place, up three from the EIS 2016. That brings Austria closer to the top, but it still lags behind other countries such as Sweden, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, the UK and Germany. What is more, it is already becoming clear – as the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development (RFTE)[2] has noted – that the

1 *The Economic Rationale for Public R&I Funding and its Impact,* European Commission, 2017: doi: 10.2777/047015

2 *Empfehlungen für den Weg zur Innovationsspitze,* RFTE, 30.11.2017

If Austria succeeds only in maintaining its position, then rising competition will mean that it has effectively lost ground.

government's aim of catching up with leading innovators by 2020 will not be achieved. At the same time, countries like Estonia, the Czech Republic and Slovenia are improving their position. What that means for Austria is obvious. If it succeeds only in maintaining its position, then rising competition will mean that it has effectively lost ground.

In order to stop input and output from diverging further, a balance is required: between funding for basic and applied research, and, on the other hand, between direct and indirect research promotion. Currently, FWF funds constitute only two per cent of all R&D spending. From 2005 to 2017 the funds spent on the research premium – a tax advantage designed to make Austria an attractive location for research-intensive firms – rose by over 400%, while the FWF's funds increased by under 100%.

This imbalance will cause the country problems in the longer term. Only higher investment in publicly funded basic research will ensure the necessary central support for private R&D. In other words, a balanced research funding strategy is an important prerequisite not only for an efficient system of innovation but also for the competitiveness of business. Raising and maintaining the effectiveness of the research premium will, therefore, demand a significant increase in the FWF's funding for basic research, from the present annual level of €25 per person to a level similar to that of other European countries, such as the Netherlands (€54 per person), Switzerland (€99 per person) or Slovenia (€72 per person)[3]. The stronger a country's desire to become a leading innovator, the more it invests in basic research, because that is the way to achieve research breakthroughs and ensure economic success.

3 Figures are for 2017, except those for the Netherlands and Switzerland, where the latest figures are for 2016.

Investing in the FWF leads to international success

Spending on basic research is an investment in economic progress and a country's future. It also increases the impact of research on the international stage. The figures show how the FWF boosts the quality of research in Austria: FWF publications make up between 12% and 14% of all Austrian publications, but they receive 20% of citations. Overall, the citation rates of scholarly articles resulting from projects supported by the organisation are 40 percentage points above the world average.

A well organised national system of research support is also of paramount importance if a country is to succeed in attracting funds at European level. The interplay of national and European support systems is especially evident in the awarding of grants by the European Research Council (ERC). Between 2007 and 2017, Austrian scholars were the recipients of a total of 216 ERC grants. Of these Starting Grantees and Advanced Grantees, just under two-thirds (63%) had an FWF track record[4]. Among the Advanced Grantees, this figure was as high as 79%.

Retaining and (re-)attracting innovation potential

"In Austria there is too little money for basic research", said Gerhard Herndl, internationally recognised ocean biologist and winner of the 2011 Wittgenstein Prize, in an interview with ORF, the Austrian public broadcaster, in January 2018. His remark reflects a long-held and persistent concern among top researchers in Austria, namely that proportionately more resources are devoted to applied rather than basic research. One consequence of this imbalance, as Herndl also confirms from practical experience, is a brain-drain that affects young researchers as well as established elite scholars. This will have long-term repercussions for Austria as a location for research and innovation. The country loses far more top-quality scholars than it is able to attract. To give just one example, five times as many researchers leave Austria for Switzerland as move in the opposite direction. These scholars are not only lost to Austria, in many cases for ever, but they also heighten the potential for innovation of those countries which are already particularly dynamic.

4 ERC-Grantees in Austria with FWF-funding (2007–2016)

Austria must be able to attract the most talented researchers and to hold onto them. Otherwise, the country will "remain stuck in the pack, whether it is a case of innovative dynamism, of competitiveness or university performance", as the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development put it in November 2017. If Austria wishes to catch up with leading countries, then it must raise its direct support for research, strengthen its basic research and increase the resources it allocates on a competitive basis. Only by doing so will it ensure that its huge overall investment will pay off. Last but not least, an ambitious programme of support for excellence will be crucial in deciding which path Austria will follow in the future.

Some measures along these lines are to be found in the current government's programme. They include an increase in research spending, a Research Funding Act conceived as a "Pact for Research and Development", an Excellence Initiative and the creation of an internationally competitive R&D framework. The government is now in the position to improve Austria's prospects significantly and to make it a leader in innovation. The potential is there as well as the necessary commitment.

If Austria wishes to catch up with leading countries, then it must raise its direct support for research, strengthen its basic research and increase the resources it allocates on a competitive basis.

2017: Preparing the master plan

In autumn 2016, the FWF's new Executive Board under the leadership of Klement Tockner launched various initiatives designed to improve further Austria's attractiveness as a research location. In 2017 the members of the FWF Board were elected for its fifth period of operation up to 2020, and in October the newly selected Reporters and their Deputies took up their posts.

The FWF roadshow

From March to September 2017, the new Executive Board together with a team from the FWF head office went on tour to visit research institutions across Austria in order to provide information and engage in dialogue. A total of 15 one-day events and 27 high-level discussions were held as part of an ongoing and intensive exchange of ideas with representatives of institutions, researchers and political decision-makers.

The FWF has always sought to engage in personal communication, on the one hand to inform the wider academic world about its programmes, procedures and strategies, on the other to acquire institutions' inputs and learn of their concerns. On this occasion, a variety of formats ranging from panel discussions to mini-presentations, from consultation meetings to informal get-togethers, meant that ideas could be exchanged with some 900 figures from the worlds of politics and economics. The information and impressions gained from the roadshow were analysed and discussed so that they can be taken into account in the FWF's strategic planning.

An alliance for research

In November 2016 the Austrian Alliance of Science Organisations was set up on the initiative of FWF President Klement Tockner to provide a strong voice for the country's scholarly community. It cooperates with representatives of scholarly and research organisations in Austria in drawing up common positions on university-level teaching and research strategies, and publishing common statements about research policy. Among the Alliance's key concerns are: the plans for spending the additional billion euros promised

by the government for research funding; the introduction of university funding on the basis of the (restricted) number of places offered; and the drawing up of guidelines for the further development of good scholarly practice.

In April 2017, as part of the March for Science, demonstrations took place around the world as a wake-up call against the rise of irrational, anti-scientific attitudes in the USA and elsewhere. The Alliance, and also the Federal Ministry of Science and Research, explicitly welcomed and supported the protests in Vienna.

In the run-up to the federal election of October 2017, Alliance members also put a list of questions about educational and research issues to all the political parties represented in parliament. Following the poll in November they followed up by calling on the new government to join them in working to support top-quality research.

The FWF: An international player

Developing further Europe-wide cooperation on research policy is a matter of common concern for the European Commission, the EU's member states and stakeholder organisations across the continent. As one of these, the FWF is active at a European and global level in a number of ways, for example through its membership of Science Europe, the umbrella organisation for research funders, and through Austria's participation in multilateral ERA-NET networks involved in basic research.

The FWF's international funding focuses on three key activities:

- cooperating on research with major European countries and funding organisations,
- participating in ERA-NET calls for basic research, and,
- cooperating on research with ambitious countries whose economies are strong in global terms.

For the scholarly community in smaller but extremely research-active countries, international networks are especially important in order to maintain and increase performance levels. Currently, the FWF cooperates with funding organisations in eight European countries (Belgium, the Czech Republic,

France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, Slovenia and Switzerland). In 2017 discussions were held at presidential-level with organisations from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia about intensifying these activities and extending their geographical scope. Outside Europe, the FWF has taken active steps towards cooperating with organisations in Argentina, China, India, Japan, Russia, South Korea, Taiwan and the USA.

For the scholarly community in smaller but extremely research-active countries, international networks are especially important in order to maintain and increase performance levels.

During 2017, the international funding activities of the FWF were evaluated by an international group of experts. The results were heartening. Internationally oriented research activities were seen as attractive for the scholarly community and the research output generated by these funding programmes given a top-quality rating. This assessment represents a starting point from which to develop further the FWF's funding portfolio and to draw up a strategy that will bind Austria even more closely into the international innovation system.

Mobility and career development

A further element of the FWF's international engagement, indeed a key pillar of its portfolio, is made up of its funding programmes. These enable young researchers to become independent scholars, opening up the prospect of international mobility. Particularly important in this regard are the Erwin Schrödinger Programme's mobility grants and the Lise Meitner Programme. Relaunched in February 2017, the latter has successfully extended the FWF's support for post-doctoral career development into the areas of "brain gain, reintegration" and human potential. In this way, the fund is making a successful contribution to raising Austria's attractiveness to the scholarly

community. Applications to the two programmes have seen a constant increase in recent years, and those to the Meitner Programme have doubled since 2011.

A constant rise in private funding

For some years now, the FWF has also been able to attract increased amounts of private funding for basic research. Its efforts once again proved successful in 2017. At present, FWF research projects are being funded to the tune of some €1.6 million from four private foundations:

- *ASMET* (Austrian Society for Metallurgy and Materials)
- *Dr. Gottfried und Dr. Vera Weiss Wissenschaftsstiftung* (Gottfried & Vera Weiss Science Foundation)
- *Herzfelder'sche Familienstiftung* (Herzfelder Family Foundation)
- *netidee SCIENCE*

Matching funds: A model on the up

Austria's National Foundation for Research, Technology and Development (NFTE) distributes matching funds on the basis of cooperation agreements between the FWF and the country's provinces. With Carinthia's decision to join the scheme at the end of 2017, it now covers all provinces except for Vienna and Burgenland. Over the year, 30 projects in five provinces (Lower Austria, Salzburg, Styria, Tyrol and Upper Austria) received total funding of €9.7 million. This was more than double the 2016 figure of €4.2 million, which was distributed to 17 projects.

Under the matching-funds model, projects that the FWF was unable to fund even though they received very good or excellent reviews are recommended for funding by the provinces. If a province agrees to such a recommendation, it funds 50% of the project costs. The remaining 50% are then met by the FWF using funds provided by the NFTE. In its report on the FWF, the Austrian Court of Audit found this to be an exemplary form of cooperation and explicitly recommended its extension. Accordingly, the FWF aims to extend the model to cover all the country's provinces.

Supporting scholarship through quality monitoring

In 2017, the FWF once more conducted quality assessments on behalf of various institutions. The most notable were those of the research activities of the Vienna Museum of Art History (KHM) and the Leibniz Association in Germany.

The KHM commissioned the FWF to audit the scholarly performance of most of its departments and collections. Written statements were collected and in June 2017 a panel of international experts carried out an official inspection tour. On this basis, a report with recommendations for future action was drawn up and published on the museum's website.

In the case of the Leibniz Association, the audit focused on its research alliances and "ScienceCampi", a form of cooperation with universities. The audit was conducted by two committees made up of international experts, with that of the ScienceCampi led by Antonio Loprieno of Basel University, President of the Austria Science Board. Janet Hering of Eawag, the aquatic research arm of the Swiss ETH research network, chaired the committee evaluating the alliances.

Auditing the Leibniz ScienceCampi on behalf of the FWF was a very positive experience: partly because the topic itself was so interesting, but above all because of the FWF's exemplary preparation of, and support for, the exercise. The competence of the FWF's technical staff gives Austria's research culture a quality stamp that is vital in establishing its visibility on the international stage.

Antonio Loprieno

Towards Open Science

Prior to 2016, the FWF's efforts in the area of open research focused on making scholarly publications freely available (Open Access). Since then, however, this principle has been extended to research data, in line with the fund's long-term Open Science strategy. Open access to data is essential if they are to be usable in the future and for studies to be replicated. For that reason, the FWF has initiated a pilot programme with the title Open Research Data (ORD). The first 12 projects were funded in 2017 to the tune of €2.2 million, with the obligation to make their research data available to the highest scholarly and technical standards. They provide the basis for ongoing discussions with Austrian and international partners designed to draw up a policy for making open access to quality-controlled research data the norm.

Another important requirement for Open Science is transparency of publishing costs, conditions and services. In 2017, the FWF signed a pioneering agreement in this area with the academic publishing house Frontiers and the University of Vienna. As the first such agreement worldwide to make all costs, access conditions and services fully transparent, it has attracted considerable international attention. Last but not least, a research documentation system is being developed in conjunction with the platform Researchfish that, from autumn 2018, will make possible a more transparent and comprehensive description of the output and impact of completed, ongoing and future FWF projects.

Scholarship and society in turmoil

In August 2017, the FWF was the chief coordinator of a working group organised as part of the annual European Forum Alpbach. Its subject, "Open science, dark knowledge: Scholarship in an age of ignorance" raised tremendous interest. The panel was composed of leading international experts: Katy Börner (information scientist / USA), Matthias Groß (environmental sociologist, Germany), Jonathan Jeske (ecologist, Germany), Linsey McGoey (sociologist, UK), Roger Pielke (political scientist, USA) and Victoria Stodden (information scientist, USA). Together with the audience they discussed changes in the system of innovation, such as the growing gap between the sum of all knowledge and that which is openly available, and the impact of privatisation and commercialisation on the scholarly community.

We fund the future

The government's current Research, Technology and Innovation (RTI) strategy is now nearing the end of its lifespan. The Council for Research and Technology Development (RFTE) has therefore recommended that new goals be drawn up for RTI policy with an end date of 2030. In its view "[t]he current evaluation of Austria's innovation performance by the OECD and the planned publication of the OECD Review of Innovation Policy at the end of 2018 represent important initial steps in that direction".[5]

With the new Executive Board now in place, the FWF has a package of measures to enable the rapid further development of the Austrian system of innovation. Crucially, it includes creating new, innovative modes of funding and fresh opportunities for the research community through cooperation. Research into important social issues must increasingly take place through inter- and transdisciplinary programmes.

Extending the portfolio

The introduction of new programmes has been welcomed by the scholarly community, for example during the high-level discussions involving Executive Board members that formed part of the 2017 roadshow. Particular interest has been shown in support for young researchers and for first-time applicants, and in the funding of high-risk projects.

Over the last year, the FWF has been working intensively and in close cooperation with universities on ways of meeting this demand. Steps have been taken, for example, with the calls for the funding of Young Independent Researcher Groups, and of doctoral programmes through the "doc.funds" initiative. In particular, a new funding instrument with the title of Research Groups will enable the funding of location-independent networks and thus fill the gap between Stand-Alone Projects and Special Research Programmes. Resources have already been set aside by the National Foundation for Research, Technology and Development (NFTE), which will enable the funding of an expected four Research Groups during a pilot phase. The first call is to follow in spring 2018.

5 *Empfehlungen für den Weg zur Innovationsspitze,* RFTE, 30.11.2017

The FWF has in place a package of measures to enable the rapid further development of a system of innovation.

Focus on young talent

The "Young Independent Researcher Groups" programme was established jointly with the Austrian Academy of Sciences (OEAW) in order to support outstanding young researchers. It enables postdocs who have obtained their doctorates within the last four years to work in interdisciplinary teams on complex and innovative projects. For the pilot phase, total funding of €6 million was made available by the Austria Fund, an offshoot of the NFTE. The programme is open to all disciplines but is intended to support the humanities, the social sciences and cultural studies in particular. Awards are made on the basis of the FWF's tried and tested decision-making procedures. In order to reduce the high drop-out rates among female researchers at the critical transition from doctoral to post-doc studies, the FWF and OEAW have set a target of 40% female participation in the programme.

Encouraging excellence

One of the FWF's aims is to develop further the potential of basic research to generate applications of direct relevance to society. In 2017, this objective was pursued in the context of discussions on the excellence programme planned in conjunction with the Science Board, under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Science and Research.

As a first step, the sum of €5 million was granted by the NFTE for the establishment of Pioneer Change Labs. These labs, which form the core of the project's initial phase, will spend some 18 to 24 months identifying key research questions in their fields. They are intended to prepare the ground for the following Excellence Labs, which are to emerge gradually from the

Pioneer Labs from 2020 on. For both types of lab, funding is to be awarded on a competitive basis. The goal is to build up and maintain knowledge transfer between basic research, development and applications, and to enhance Austria's human potential. This programme is being pursued in cooperation with major funding organisations, among them the Research Promotion Agency (FFG), the Ludwig Boltzmann Association (LBG) and the ScienceCenter network.

"In Austria there is too little money for basic research. The result is that large sections of the scholarly community leave Austria."

Gerhard Herndl, ocean biologist and Wittgenstein Prize winner

Time to celebrate: The FWF turns 50

The year 2018 is a landmark in the history of the Austrian Science Fund: the 50th anniversary of its founding in 1968. To celebrate this milestone, the FWF has decided to hold Austria's largest ever research-related event to coincide with the country's presidency of the Council of the European Union. The "BE OPEN – Science & Society Festival" will take place from 8 to 12 September in Vienna. Together with numerous individual researchers and institutions, the FWF intends to lay down a new, unambiguous marker for high-quality, cutting-edge research in Austria. The rich and varied programme, ranging from exhibition stands to panel discussions and special events, is aimed at anyone interested in engaging in dialogue with Austria's best brains and (re)discovering the fascination of basic research. The festival's official closing ceremony will see the award of Austria's most prestigious scientific and scholarly honours, the Wittgenstein Prize and the START Prize.

A clear commitment to top-quality research

Austria has the potential to become one of Europe's most attractive countries for research, training and innovation. Increasing the research funds allocated on a competitive basis will help to boost research quality and to safeguard Austria's international competitiveness. Of that, the government is in no doubt. As Heinz Faßmann, Federal Science Minister since January 2018, has put it: "An increase in the funding for basic research is needed soon."

In 2017 it became possible to take the first, essential, steps in that direction. The FWF was able to raise the amount of funding approved to €217.3 million, up from €183.8 million the previous year, and the number of researchers supported from 3,989 to 4,078. The total amount approved rose by 18%, thanks to the first tranches of additional resources from the envisaged increase in the FWF's budget. Nevertheless, if cutting-edge research is to be given a lasting boost, it will be necessary, first, to raise the FWF's budget to the levels typical in other leading research countries and thereafter to continue increasing it.

If Austria does not take the necessary steps soon by investing heavily in top-quality research, it will increasingly fall behind in the global struggle for innovation, technology and the best researchers. With every researcher who leaves the country because conditions are more favourable abroad, the country's future is diminished. The universities are especially badly hit by this net brain drain. There are signs of an opposing trend in the field of non-university research but Austria continues to suffer a loss of talent that threatens its well-being and its potential for innovation at a time when global competition for the researchers is tougher than ever. That makes the projected strengthening of the FWF, with a doubling of its budget by 2020, all the more necessary. Such moves must include establishing uniform rules on overheads, thus enabling the FWF, like other funding organisations, to grant research institutions an additional 25% to their project costs to cover indirect costs such as infrastructure and administration.

As already indicated, the current government has taken on board many of the proposals made over a number of years to ensure that, as it has stated, "in the coming years Austria advances from the group of strong innovators to become an innovation leader and thus one of the most innovative countries in Europe". To achieve that aim, the government has committed to competition-led research funding, which implies a significant increase in the funds available for distribution on a competitive basis. Now the FWF

is counting on political decision-makers to show the will needed to bring Austria's research budget up to the levels of Europe's other strong researchers. The FWF's portfolio of programmes and its rigorous quality control are key factors in ensuring that these investments in basic research pay off in the long term.

Austria has the potential to become one of Europe's most attractive countries for research, training and innovation. Increasing the research funds allocated on a competitive basis will help to boost research quality and to safeguard Austria's international competitiveness.

CHAPTER 2

High-lights and prize-winners 2017

Roadshow 2017

From March to December 2017 the FWF went on tour throughout Austria. In 15 one-day roadshows, it visited 27 research institutions.

Wittgenstein Prize Winners

1996
Erwin F. Wagner
Morphogenesis of the Vertebrate Face
Ruth Wodak
Discourse, Politics, Identity

1997
Georg Gottlob
Information Systems and Artifical Intelligence
Erich Gornik
Semiconductor Nanoelectronics
Antonius und Marjori Matzke
Epigenetic Silencing of Plant Transgenes

1998
Walter Schachermayer
Stochastic Processes in Finance
Peter Zoller
Theoretical Quantum Optics and Quantum Information

1999
Kim Ashley Nasmyth
Yeast Cell Cycle

2000
Peter A. Markowich
Applied Mathematics
Andre Gingrich
Local Identities and Wider Influences

2001
Meinrad Busslinger
Molecular Mechanisms of Lineage Commitment in the Hematopoietic System
Heribert Hirt
Cell Cycle Control in Plants

2002
Ferenc Krausz
Quantum Optics: Ultrafast and High-Field Processes

2003
Renée Schroeder
RNA Folding and Catalysis, RNA-Binding Antibiotics

2004
Walter Pohl
Early Medieval History and Culture

2005
Rudolf Grimm
Atomic and Molecular Quantum Gases
Barry J. Dickson
The Development and Function of Neural Circuits

2006
Jörg Schmiedmayer
Atomic Physics, Quantum Optics, Miniaturizing on a Chip

2007
Rudolf Zechner
Metabolic Lipases in Lipid and Energy Metabolism
Christian Krattenthaler
Classical Combinatorics and Applications

2008
Markus Arndt
Quantum Interference with Clusters and Complex Molecules

2009
Gerhard Widmer
Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Music
Jürgen A. Knoblich
Assymetric Cell Division

2010
Wolfgang Lutz
Demography

2011
Jan-Michael Peters
Chromosome Segregation during Human Cell Division
Gerhard J. Herndl
Microbial Oceanography, Marine Biochemistry

2012
Niyazi Serdar Sariçiftçi
Solar Energy Conversion
Thomas A. Henzinger
Formal Methods for the Design and Analysis of Complex Sysems

2013
Ulrike Diebold
Surface Science

2014
Josef Penninger
Functional Genetics

2015
Claudia Rapp
Byzantium, Late Antiquity, Social and Cultural History

2016
Peter Jonas
Neurology (Synaptic Communication in Neuronal Microcircuits)

2017: Hanns-Christoph Nägerl

Experimental Physics – “Ultracold Quantum Matter”

Hanns-Christoph Nägerl is a leading expert in the field of many-body quantum systems. In his research, he uses atoms and, most recently, larger molecules that have been laser-cooled, in order to construct so-called quantum simulators, in which the quantum physical states of the individual particles can be precisely created. Such systems may reveal reactions never previously observed which often run counter to what one would intuitively expect. They enable analyses to be conducted for which conventional computers have insufficient capacity. It is assumed that complex many-body quantum systems will make it possible to explain the mechanisms that underlie the transmission of electricity with zero resistance at high temperatures (high-temperature superconductivity). The quantum wires researched by Nägerl and his team thus provide insights into problems that will arise in the future as the size of integrated circuits continues to be reduced with amazing rapidity.

Nägerl (51) studied Physics at the University of Göttingen, to which he returned in 1990 after spending a year at the University of California in San Diego. In the course of his doctoral studies, Nägerl moved to Innsbruck along with the quantum physicist Rainer Blatt in 1995. Following a two-year stay at California Institute of Technology, in the year 2000 he returned to the University of Innsbruck, where he has been a Full Professor since 2011. As well as the 2013 START Prize and other honours, Nägerl was awarded a valuable Consolidator Grant by the European Research Council (ERC) in 2011.

Such systems […] enable analyses to be conducted for which conventional computers have insufficient capacity.

START principal investigators

Hannes A. Fellner

A linguist affiliated to the University of Vienna, Fellner won the START prize for his project "The Characters that shaped the Silk Road – A Database and Digital Paleography of Tarim Brahmi". In the course of the second century BC, many Buddhist monasteries were founded along the trade routes of the Silk Road. There the art of writing was fostered, the most important script being Tarim Brahmi.

Vera Fischer

Fischer, a mathematician, is a research assistant at the University of Vienna's Kurt Gödel Research Center. Her project on "Infinitary Combinatorics and Definability" focuses on basic questions related to the combinatorial properties of the set of real numbers and arising from the phenomena of definability and independence. These properties play a key role in her analysis.

Claudine Kraft

In her project "The Role of Atg1/ULK1 in Autophagy", Kraft, a molecular biologist at the University of Vienna, investigates the capacity of cells for self-cleaning. Autophagy is the waste disposal system of cells. What is "thrown out", and what must not be "thrown out" under any circumstances, is determined by a complex interplay of proteins, the chief regulator of which is the protein Atg1. Defects in the autophagy process have been linked, for example, to cancer.

2017

Wolfgang Lechner

Lechner is a physicist based at the Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Innsbruck. He is seeking to develop the world's first coherent and fully programmable quantum computer capable of solving optimisation problems. His project is entitled "Parity QC: Parity Constraints as a Quantum Computing Toolbox" and centres on a new, patented architecture for the first fully programmable quantum computer for optimisation problems.

Andrea Pauli

A biochemist at the Institute for Molecular Pathology in Vienna, Pauli studies newly discovered regions in messenger RNAs that could play a major role in embryogenesis. The aims of her project "New insights into the functional importance of widespread translations during embryogenesis" are to identify the functions of these regions during embryogenesis and to make new findings in fertility research.

Miriam Unterlass

Affiliated to Vienna University of Technology, Unterlass is a chemist and materials scientist whose project is entitled "The hydrothermal route to functional organic frameworks". In it, she investigates how high-performance materials can be produced by environmentally-friendly methods. She wishes to develop innovative organic frameworks suitable for use in lithium ion batteries, high-temperature fuel cells and solar cells.

1996
KÖBERL Christian
KRAUSZ Ferenc
SCHMID Ulrich
SZMOLYAN Peter
UNTERRAINER Karl
WEINFURTER Harald
WOEGINGER Gerhard
WOISETSCHLÄGER Jakob

1997
HOLZAPFEL Gerhard
PALME Bernhard
SCHMID Michael

1998
GRABNER Peter
KIRCHENGAST Gottfried
VALENTA Rudolf
WIDMER Gerhard

1999
MARSCHNER Christoph
MAUSER Norbert J.
SCHERZER Otmar
SCHREFL Thomas
SPÖTL Christoph
STRAUSS Joseph

2000
BRABEC Thomas
KALSS Susanne
LEIBFRIED Dietrich
STROBL Herbert
TILG Bernhard

2001
ARNDT Markus
BUCHMEISER Michael
DREXLER Wolfgang
ELLMEIER Wilfried
SEDMAK Clemens

2002
HEISS Wolfgang
JURSA Michael
SCHETT Georg
SCHMALSTIEG Dieter
SCHÖBERL Joachim

2003
KRESSE Georg
NÄGERL Hanns-Christoph
VILLUNGER Andreas

2004
BACHNER Thomas
KUNZINGER Michael
PALANKOVSKI Vassil
PROHASKA Thomas
SCHÜTZ Gerhard

2005
HINTERMÜLLER Michael
HORN Matthias
LUSSER Alexandra
MOSER Michael
ZIMMERMANN Norbert

2006
HÄFFNER Hartmut
POLACEK Norbert
SCHMIDT Piet Oliver
TEICHMANN Josef
TESCHL Gerald

2007
BREUKER Kathrin
BUGNYAR Thomas
GÜHNE Otfried
LAMEL Bernhard
LÖRTING Thomas
MAYRHOFER Paul
WADAUER Sigrid
WALLNIG Thomas

2008
ASPELMEYER Markus
BATTIN Tom
FORNASIER Massimo
GRUMILLER Daniel
KENDL Alexander
RIHA Karel
TESSMAR-RAIBLE Kristin
WALDSICH Christina

2009
FERLAINO Francesca
FISCHER Ilse
KASER Arthur
KAUERS Manuel
SCHUMM Thorsten
TEIS David

2010
BRENNECKE Julius
HOREJS Barbara
KRAUS Barbara
MALZAHN Melanie
SCHRECK Florian
ZAGROVIC Bojan

2011
BALAZS Peter
CIABATTONI Agata
DIEHL Sebastian
KÖHLER Alwin
MÜLLER Thomas
RABL Peter
SIXT Michael
WALTHER Philip

2012
BOZTUG Kaan
BUDKA Julia
DAMMERMANN Alexander
HAUER Jürgen
KANTOROVICH Sofia
KIRCHLER Michael
SCHUSTER Franz

2013
AMERES Stefan L.
GIERLINGER Notburga
HEITZINGER Clemens
KATSAROS Georgios
KEAYS David A.
PAUN Ovidiu
POCK Thomas
SARTORI Paolo
WOLTRAN Stefan

2014
AICHHORN Markus
BADER Bettina
BEIGLBÖCK Mathias
GRÜNEIS Alexander
NEUHAUSER Sigrid
SCHABUS Manuel
SCHNASS Karin
THIEMANN Rene

2015
AISTLEITNER Christoph
BRANDIC Ivona
HUBER Marcus
LANYON Ben
PARKINSON Gareth
SEIDL Rupert
STÖCKL Kristina
UHLER Caroline

2016
CAMPBELL Christopher
EICHMAIR Michael
GROBNER Harald
HÖFLMAYER Felix
KIESEL Nikolai
NORTHUP Tracy

“Our relationship with the public must involve dialogue above all else.”

Klement Tockner
FWF President

“Am Puls: Scholars in the theatre”

1

2

“Open Science” High-Level Workshop, Berlin

3

1 *“Am Puls”:* this series of events brings scholarship into a theatre setting and is the most popular form of science communication, with an average audience of over 400.

2 Holocaust survivor Helga Feldner-Busztin spoke at the FWF’s *“Am Puls”* event in Vienna’s Akzent Theatre.

3 The FWF was present at the High-Level Workshop on “The Rationales of Open Science” in Berlin, which was organised by Science Europe in conjunction with the German Research Association (DFG) and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

4

The winners: START and Wittgenstein Prizes

5

6

7

Belt-and-Road Symposium, Beijing

Supporting women in research: Firnberg-Richter Ceremony

8

9

Forum Alpbach

4 Physicist and Wittgenstein Prize winner Hanns-Christoph Nägerl delivering his speech of thanks at the START/Wittgenstein Ceremony in June 2017

5 START and Wittgenstein Prize winners for 2017 with the then federal Science Minister Harald Mahrer, FWF President Klement Tockner and jury chairman Julius Rebek

6 Iranian-Canadian singer and guitarrist Golnar Shahyar performing along with Kosovan cellist Rina Kaçinari at the START/Wittgenstein Ceremony

7 Participants at the Belt-and-Road Symposium in Beijing. July 2017, at the invitation of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)

8 Firnberg-Richter Ceremony, March 2017, where 32 outstanding researchers were honoured

9 European Forum Alpbach: leading internaional experts discussing the role of scholarship in an age of ignorance at a working group initiated by the FWF

CHAPTER 3

Organisation and decision-making bodies

Executive Board 5th term (since September 2016)

President
Klement TOCKNER

Executive Vice-President
Artemis VAKIANIS

Vice-President
Humanities and Social Sciences
Gerlinde MAUTNER
Institute for English Business Communication
Vienna University of Economics and Business

Vice-President
Natural Sciences and Engineering
Gregor WEIHS
Department of Experimental Physics
University of Innsbruck

Vice-President
Biology and Medicine
Ellen ZECHNER
Institute of Molecular Biosciences
University of Graz

Supervisory Board 5th term (2015–2019)

Chair
Hans SÜNKEL
Space Research Institute
Austrian Academy of Sciences

Deputy Chair
Iris RAUSKALA
Section VI, Austrian Federal Ministry
of Education, Science and Research

Members (advisory capacity)
Reinhart KÖGERLER
Christian Doppler Research Association

Gertrude TUMPEL-GUGERELL
FFG Supervisory Board

Members
Iris FORTMANN
FWF Works Council

Martin GRÖTSCHEL
Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences
and Humanities, Germany

Gerhard GRUND
business connect gmbh

Harald KATZMAIR
FASresearch

Renate E. MEYER
Vienna University of Economics and Business

Sonja PUNTSCHER RIEKMANN
Salzburg Centre of European Union Studies

Janet RITTERMAN
Middlesex University, UK

Michaela SCHMIDT
Salzburg Chamber of Labour

Assembly of Delegates 5th term (2015–2019)

Chair
Josef GLÖSSL
University of Natural Resources
and Life Sciences Vienna

Institutions

Academy of Fine Arts

Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH

Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation
and Technology (non-university research)

Deputy Chair
Christine BANDTLOW
Medical University of Innsbruck

Members

Andrea B. BRAIDT

Wolfgang KNOLL

Wolfgang PRIBYL
Joanneum Research

Deputies

Michaela GLANZ

Elvira WELZIG

Helmut WIEDENHOFER
Joanneum Research

Danube University Krems	Friedrich FAULHAMMER	Viktoria WEBER
Institute of Science and Technology Austria	Thomas A. HENZINGER	Michael SIXT
Ludwig Boltzmann Association	Peter MAYRHOFER	Jürgen BUSCH
Medical University of Graz	Caroline SCHOBER-TRUMMLER	Michael SPEICHER
Medical University of Innsbruck	Christine BANDTLOW	Günter WEISS
Medical University of Vienna	Michaela FRITZ	Michael FREISSMUTH
Montanuniversität Leoben	Wilfried EICHLSEDER	Oskar PARIS
Austrian Academy of Sciences	Michael ALRAM	Brigitte MAZOHL
Austrian Conference of Universities of Applied Sciences	Andreas ALTMANN	Johann KASTNER
Austrian National Union of Students	Johanna ZECHMEISTER	Marita GASTEIGER
Austrian Conference of Private Universities	Rudolf MALLINGER	Stefan HAMPL
Graz University of Technology	Horst BISCHOF	Gerhard HOLZAPFEL
Vienna University of Technology	Johannes FRÖHLICH	Ulrike DIEBOLD
University of Applied Arts Vienna	Alexander DAMIANISCH	Barbara PUTZ-PLECKO
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna	Josef GLÖSSL	Martin H. GERZABEK
University of Art and Design Linz	Sabine POLLAK	Thomas MACHO
University of Music and Performing Arts Graz	Barbara BOISITS	Malik SHARIF
University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna	Cornelia SZABO-KNOTIK	Therese KAUFMANN
University of Graz	Peter SCHERRER	Renate DWORCZAK
University of Innsbruck	Ulrike TANZER	Bernhard FÜGENSCHUH
University of Klagenfurt	Friederike WALL	Fridolin KRAUSMANN
University of Linz	Alexander EGYED	Siegfried BAUER
Mozarteum University Salzburg	Joachim BRÜGGE	Julia HINTERBERGER
University of Salzburg	Fatima FERREIRA-BRIZA	Albert DUSCHL
University of Vienna	Jean-Robert TYRAN	Heinz ENGL
University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna	Otto DOBLHOFF-DIER	Mathias MÜLLER
Vienna University of Economics and Business	Stefan PICHLER	Harald BADINGER
Non-voting members		
FWF Executive Board	Gerlinde MAUTNER Klement TOCKNER Artemis VAKIANIS Gregor WEIHS Ellen ZECHNER	
Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research	Eva GOTTMANN	Wolfgang NEURATH
Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology	Margit HARJUNG	Mario STEYER

Juries and Boards

International START/Wittgenstein Jury

Biology and Medicine

Adrian BIRD
University of Edinburgh, UK

Carlo CROCE
Ohio State University, USA

Christine FOYER
University of Leeds, UK

Humanities and Social Sciences

Peter NIJKAMP
AmsterdamUniversity, Netherlands

Peter VAN DOMMELEN
Brown University, USA

Janet WOLFF
University of Manchester, UK

Natural Sciences and Engineering

Christoph BECKERMANN
The University of Iowa, USA

Carlo W. J. BEENAKKER
Leiden University, Netherlands

Stefan HELL
Max Planck Institute of Biophysical Chemistry, Germany

Gitta KUTYNIOK
Berlin University of Technology, Germany

Jeannette WING
Carnegie Mellon University, USA

PEEK Board

Cecilie BROCH KNUDSEN
Academy of Art and Design, Bergen, Norway

Luisa COLLINA
Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy

Darla CRISPIN
Norwegian Academy of Music

Sandra KEMP
Imperial College, UK

Michael PUNT
University of Plymouth, UK

Anton REY
Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland

SciComm Jury

Gian-Andri CASUTT
Beate LANGHOLF
Oliver LEHMANN

Christian MÜLLER
Jutta RATEIKE
Barbara STREICHER

Equal Opportunities

Composition of FWF bodies by gender (♀/♂)

Executive Board 5 (3/2)	**International START/ Wittgenstein Jury** 11 (4/7)
Supervisory Board[1] 10 (6/4)	**PEEK Board** 6 (4/2)
FWF Board BIOMED[2] 20 (7/13)	**SciComm Jury** 6 (3/3)
FWF Board HUMSOC[2] 16 (8/8)	**Staff**[3] 110 (74/36)
FWF Board NATTEC[2] 20 (4/16)	**Total** 264 (134/130)
Assembly of Delegates[2] 60 (21/39)	

1 voting members
2 incl. deputies; excl. non-voting members
3 incl. part-time staff and freelancers: excl. staff on parental leave and Executive Board members

As at 31 December 2017

FWF Board 5th term (2017–2020)

Biology and Medicine

Discipline (incl. sub-disciplines)	Reporter	Deputy reporter
Biology I	Kurt KOTRSCHAL University of Vienna	Ilse KRANNER University of Innsbruck
Biology II	Elisabeth HARING NHM Vienna	Ruben SOMMARUGA University of Innsbruck
Genetics, Microbiology, Biotechnology & Systems Biology	MITTELSTEN SCHEID Ortrun ÖAW Vienna	REIDL Joachim University of Graz
Cell Biology	Ludger HENGST Medical University of Innsbruck	Dirk STRUNK Paracelsus Private Medical University Salzburg
Biochemistry & Structural Biology	Iain B. H. WILSON University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna	Ruth PRASSL Medical University of Graz
Neurobiology & Cognitive Neuroscience	Bernhard E. FLUCHER Medical University of Innsbruck	Claus LAMM University of Vienna
Biomedical Research I	Akos HEINEMANN Medical University of Graz	Barbara KOFLER Paracelsus Private Medical University Salzburg
Biomedical Research II	Maria SIBILIA Medical University of Vienna	Till RÜMENAPF University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna
Clinical Research I	Thomas BAUERNHOFER Medical University of Graz	Marc-Michael ZARUBA Medical University of Innsbruck
Clinical Research II	Christoph J. BINDER Medical University of Vienna	Elke GIZEWSKI Medical University of Innsbruck

Natural Sciences and Engineering

Discipline (incl. sub-disciplines)	Reporter	Deputy reporter
Mathematics I	Josef SCHICHO University of Linz	Michael DRMOTA Vienna University of Technology
Mathematics II	Barbara KALTENBACHER University of Klagenfurt	Georg PFLUG University of Vienna

As at 14 February 2018

Computer Science I	Silvia MIKSCH Vienna University of Technology	Ruth BREU University of Innsbruck
Computer Science II	Roderick BLOEM Graz University of Technology	Bernhard RINNER University of Klagenfurt
Experimental Physics	Gottfried STRASSER Vienna University of Technology	Peter ZEPPENFELD University of Linz
Theoretical Physics and Astrophysics	Enrico ARRIGONI Vienna University of Technology	Andreas LÄUCHLI University of Innsbruck
Inorganic Chemistry	Nicola HÜSING University of Salzburg	Erik REIMHULT University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna
Organic Chemistry	Rolf BREINBAUER Graz University of Technology	Nuno MAULIDE University of Vienna
Earth Sciences & Geology	Georg KASER University of Innsbruck	Rainer ABART University of Vienna
Engineering Sciences	Oszkár BIRÓ Graz University of Technology	Andreas LUDWIG Montanuniversität Leoben

Humanities and Social Sciences

Discipline (incl. sub-disciplines)	Reporter	Deputy reporter
Business & Economics	Sigrid STAGL Vienna University of Economics and Business	Paul SCHWEINZER University of Klagenfurt
Social Sciences I	Jessica FORTIN-RITTBERGER University of Salzburg	Ursula KRIEBAUM University of Vienna
Social Sciences II	Libora OATES-INDRUCHOVÁ University of Graz	Tobias GREITEMEYER University of Innsbruck
Philosophy, Theology & Cultural Studies	Anne SIEGETSLEITNER University of Innsbruck	Karin HARRASSER University of Art and Design Linz
Historical Studies	Susan ZIMMERMANN Central European University	Reinhard STAUBER University of Klagenfurt
Classical Studies	Erich KISTLER University of Innsbruck	Reinhard WOLTERS University of Vienna
Linguistics and Literature Studies	Norbert Christian WOLF University of Salzburg	Ulrike JESSNER-SCHMID University of Innsbruck
Art and Art History	Raphael ROSENBERG University of Vienna	Federico CELESTINI University of Innsbruck

FWF pro-grammes

CHAPTER 4

Exploring new frontiers

Top-quality research

Stand-Alone Projects

Objective

- To enable researchers to carry out independent projects in basic research

International programmes

Objective

- To enable researchers to carry out closely integrated bilateral or multilateral basic-research projects

Funding programmes

- Joint Projects: bi- and trilateral research projects, sometimes with a specific focus
- ERA-NET Calls: multilateral (European) research cooperation with a specific focus
- Joint Seminars: meetings and workshops to initiate cooperative projects

Special Research Programmes (SFBs)

Objectives

- To create areas of focus for research at one or more locations
- To develop extremely productive, tightly interconnected research establishments for long-term and interdisciplinary work on complex research topics

Awards and prizes

START Programme

Objectives

- To provide outstanding young researchers with long-term support for basic research
- To help researchers gain the qualifications necessary for leadership positions in research by developing, growing and managing their own working groups

Wittgenstein Prize

Objectives

- To provide established researchers with long-term support for basic research
- To give those reseachers maximum freedom and flexibility in pursuing their research

Gottfried and Vera Weiss Prize
(administered on behalf of the Gottfried and Vera Weiss Science Foundation)

Objective

- To enable (young) researchers to carry out basic research in the fields of meteorology or anaesthesiology

ASMET Research Award
(administered on behalf of the Austrian Society for Metallurgy and Materials)

Objective

- To enable (young) researchers to carry out basic research in the field of metallurgy

netidee SCIENCE
(funded by the Internet Foundation Austria [IPA])

Objectives

- To make a sustainable contribution to expanding, strengthening and preserving the benefits of the Internet for all members of society
- To support researchers from all disciplines who can help to achieve the foundation's objectives in the fields of technology, the natural sciences, business and economics, and the social sciences

Herzfelder Foundation Projects
(administered on behalf of the Herzfeld Family Foundation)

Objectives

- To enable researchers to carry out basic research in the field of biochemical/medical cell research
- To support research into cell changes and ageing as well as the search for new means of influencing these processes

Cultivating talents

Human resources development

Support for young researchers

Doctoral programme doc.funds

Objectives

- To promote outstanding education and training for doctoral students in existing internationally oriented doctoral programmes with clearly defined structures and quality standards
- To reinforce the research orientation and sustained consolidation of existing education and training structures for highly qualified junior researchers

Young Independent Researcher Groups

Objectives

- To support young post-doctoral researchers
- To promote cooperation and networking among internationally outstanding young researchers through interdisciplinary research cooperation (for up to 4 years) in teams of 3 to 5 researchers
- To promote advanced interdisciplinary research into complex issues at a minimum of 2 distinct research institutions or 2 organisational units of a single institution

International mobility

Erwin Schrödinger Fellowships

Objectives

- To help (young) researchers work on basic research at leading research institutions outside Austria
- To help researchers gain experience abroad at the post-doc stage
- To facilitate access to new fields of research, methods, procedures and techniques, so that fellows can contribute to the development of their respective fields

Lise Meitner Programme

Objectives

- To enhance research quality at Austrian research institutions
- To increase quality levels and scholarly expertise among Austria's scientific community
- To help researchers establish international contacts
- To support career development

Career development for women in research

Hertha Firnberg Programme

Objectives

- To enable female reserchers to carry out basic research
- To support female post-doc researchers early in their academic careers or on their return from maternity leave
- To enhance women's opportunities for academic careers at Austrian research institutions

Elise Richter Programme

Objectives

- To enable female reserchers to carry out basic research
- To support the development of women's academic careers and help them obtain the qualifications necessary for a professorship in Austria or outside the country

Elise Richter / PEEK Programme

Objectives

- To enable female researchers to carry out innovative arts-based research projects
- To support the development of women's academic careers and help them obtain the qualifications necessary for a professorship in Austria or outside the country

Realising new ideas

A bridge between research and society

Funding application-oriented basic research

Clinical Research Programme (KLIF)

Objectives

- To enable researchers to carry out clinical research projects
- To generate new scholarly knowledge and insights in order to improve clinical practice
- To optimise diagnostic and therapeutic pocedures

Funding research in the Arts

Arts-Based Research Programme (PEEK)

Objectives

- To enable researchers to carry out innovative arts-based research projects
- To increase awareness of arts-based research and its potential applications among a broader audience and within the research and arts communities

Funding of publications and communication

Stand-Alone Publications Programme

Objective

- To support the publication of stand-alone scholarly works in an appropriate and economical manner using conventional or digital publication formats

Peer-Reviewed Publications Programme

Objective

- To support the publication of peer-reviewed works

Science Communication Programme (SciComm)

Objective

- To enable researchers to implement outstanding science communication measures related to FWF-funded projects

Funding for supplementary projects

Top Citizen Science (TCS)

Objectives

- To support research activites that call for active citizen involvement
- To make use of citizens' abilities, expertise, curiosity and willingness to participate

The FWF's activities in figures

CHAPTER 5

In 2017, the FWF Board decided on 2,493 project applications. In assessing them, 4,701 reviews were received from 66 countries.

At the board's five sittings, 642 projects were finally approved for funding with a total of €217.3 million. This represented a renewed increase of €33.5 million on the 2016 figure after the falls of recent years.

Including supplementary and other funding (e.g. support for publications), the sum distributed as research support amounted to €224.8 million. As of 31 December 2017, the FWF was funding 4,078 research-active individuals.

FWF balance sheet

As at 31 December 2017

(all figures in euros: not including scientific equipment)

ASSETS	31 Dec. 2017	31 Dec. 2016
A. Fixed assets		
1. Intangible assets	349,341.56	460,678.09
2. Construction investment in non-owned facilities	13,882.60	15,617.93
3. Tangible fixed assets (equipment)	161,529.70	163,556.41
	524,753.86	**639,852.43**
B. Current assets		
I. Accounts receivable and other assets		
1. Accounts receivable from the BMWFW	21,650,004.85	36,650,004.85
2. Accounts receivable from the BMVIT	811,845.00	1,261,951.19
3. Accounts receivable from the National Foundation for Research, Technology and Development	48,331,847.39	49,760,372.54
4. Accounts receivable from the EU (COFUND)	656,748.62	1,869,113.56
5. Accounts receivable from Austrian provincial governments and other sponsors	8,296,174.90	5,326,474.32
6. Accounts receivable from the BMWFW (approved grants for future years)	386,185,480.57	373,063,339.01
7. Other receivables and assets	591,857.70	563,311.27
	466,523,959.03	**468,494,566.74**
II. Cash on hand or at banks	65,421,089.26	45,504,730.09
	531,945,048.29	**513,999,296.83**
C. Accruals and deferred items	**99,221.18**	**109,146.17**
ASSETS	**532,569,023.33**	**514,748,295.43**

LIABILITIES	31 Dec. 2017	31 Dec. 2016
A. Provisions	**1,974,105.00**	**1,794,506.00**
B. Liabilities		
I. Liabilities from research funding		
1. Liabilities from research projects	510,171,829.41	484,836,073.85
2. Contingent liabilities from international projects	5,742,823.99	7,629,545.41
3. Liabilities from international agreements	193,610.00	290,415.00
4. Liabilities to publishers	47,860.59	45,101.66
5. Liabilities from payroll costs	292,459.33	287,925.14
	516,448,583.32	**493,089,061.06**
II. Liabilities from contractual agreements		
6. with the BMVIT	1,117,823.49	1,129,990.00
7. with the European Union (COFUND)	133,692.65	214,502.55
8. with the National Foundation for RTD	11,511,517.58	17,316,810.33
9. with Austrian provincial governments	739,054.30	310,555.70
	13,502,088.02	**18,971,858.58**
III. Other liabilities / FWF Office costs	**561,953.99**	**783,145.79**
	530,512,625.33	**512,844,065.43**
C. Accruals and deferred items	**82,293.00**	**109,724.00**
LIABILITIES	**532,569,023.33**	**514,748,295.43**

FWF income statement

From 1 January to 31 December 2017
(all figures in euros)

I. Revenues	2017	2016
1. Revenues from research funding		
a) Contributions from the BMWFW	197,122,141.56	190,340,504.31
b) Contributions from the National Foundation for RTD	16,500,000.00	18,000,000.00
c) Other contributions	6,805,995.65	4,050,941.41
d) Grants and donations	1,352,124.67	1,632,814.56
	221,780,261.88	**214,024,260.28**
2. Changes in utilisation of approved grants	**5,280,167.26**	**–13,605,421.17**
3. Revenues from unused research grants (returned funds)	**8,542,844.12**	**7,768,469.49**
4. Other revenues		
a) Revenues from completed research projects	1,727.86	1,852.70
b) Reimbursement for services and other revenues from administrative activities	482,724.38	487,189.32
c) Interest income	44,740.01	53,884.51
	529,192.25	**542,926.53**
I. Revenues	**236,132,465.51**	**208,730,235.13**
II. Expenses		
5. Expenses for research funding		
a) Stand-Alone Projects programme (incl. Clinical Research)	103,726,619.14	94,133,247.21
b) International programmes	28,087,160.00	22,468,443.43
c) Priority research programmes	12,694,033.28	19,077,301.79
d) Awards and prizes	8,421,156.96	8,605,846.94
e) Doctoral programmes	38,826,758.66	14,828,949.40
f) International mobility	16,269,644.04	17,423,516.04
g) Career development for women in research	10,134,356.32	8,747,471.91
h) Support for clinical research	3,415,875.94	2,845,319.69
i) Open Research Data	2,217,690.33	–
j) Science Communication Programme	249,633.29	234,001.94
k) Publication funding	1,706,411.18	1,503,284.71
l) Translational Research Programme	55,104.81	57,884.60
m) Top Citizen Science	346,524.05	245,615.80
n) Partnership in Research	–	1,277,291.10
o) Change in contingent project approvals	–1,886,721.42	5,612,623.53
p) Payroll costs (incl. research institutions)	584,245.25	704,568.98
	224,848,491.83	**197,765,367.07**

	2017	2016
6. Expenses for research support		
a) Derived from international agreements	34,074.98	521,651.25
b) Other	8,072.39	2,678.33
	42,147.37	**524,329.58**
7. Administrative expenses		
a) Personnel expenses	7,228,288.47	6,791,792.12
b) Other	4,013,537.84	3,648,746.36
	11,241,826.31	**10,440,538.48**
II. Expenses	**236,132,465.51**	**208,730,235.13**
Result for the year	**0.00**	**0.00**

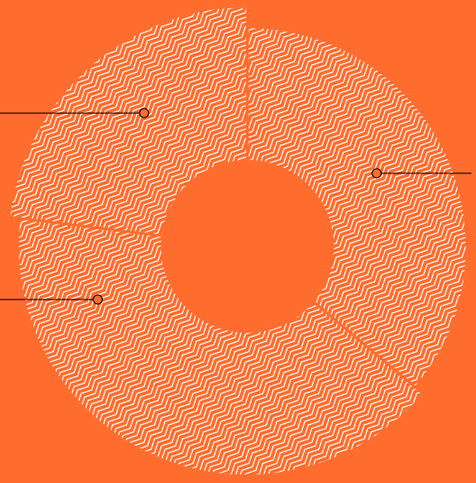
Details of "Other contributions"

(In addition to contributions from the BMWFW
and the National Foundation for RTD: all figures in euros)

	2017	2016
1. c) Other contributions		
Provincial government of Tyrol	2,727,287.95	1,233,756.11
Provincial government of Styria	1,056,758.80	411,805.86
Provincial government of Upper Austria	781,685.21	346,437.00
Provincial government of Lower Austria	582,799.27	188,893.22
Provincial government of Salzburg	197,811.00	87,058.80
Herzfeld Family Foundation	650,000.00	–
Internet Foundation Austria	322,799.13	–
Gottfried and Vera Weiss Science Foundation	200,000.00	200,000.00
ASMET – The Austrian Society for Metallurgy and Materials	–	305,297.32
Christian Doppler Research Association	–	1,277,291.10
European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino Euroregion	286,854.29	402.00
	6,805,995.65	**4,050,941.41**

Approvals by research discipline

Share of new grants approved



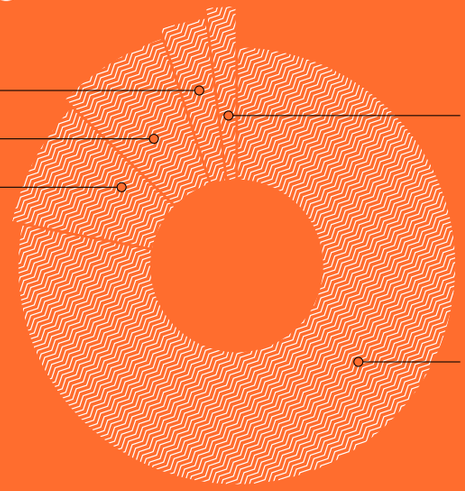
Humanities and Social Sciences
22.8 % (2016: 20.0 %)
▷ Approval rate: 22.1 %

Natural Sciences and Engineering
41.0 % (2016: 42.0 %)
▷ Approval rate: 22.7 %

Biology and Medicine
36.2 % (2016: 37.9 %)
▷ Approval rate: 22.1 %

Approvals by cost type

2017
€ 217.3 m
in new grants approved



Travel costs
1.8 % (2016: 2.0 %)

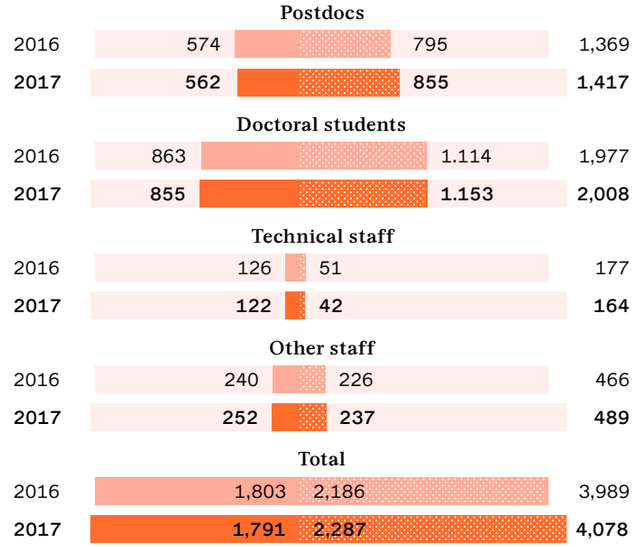
Consumables
6.3 % (2016: 7.2 %)

Other costs
7.8 % (2016: 7.7 %)

Equipment costs
0.6 % (2016: 1.0 %)

Personnel costs
83.5 % (2016: 82.0 %)

FWF-funded research staff

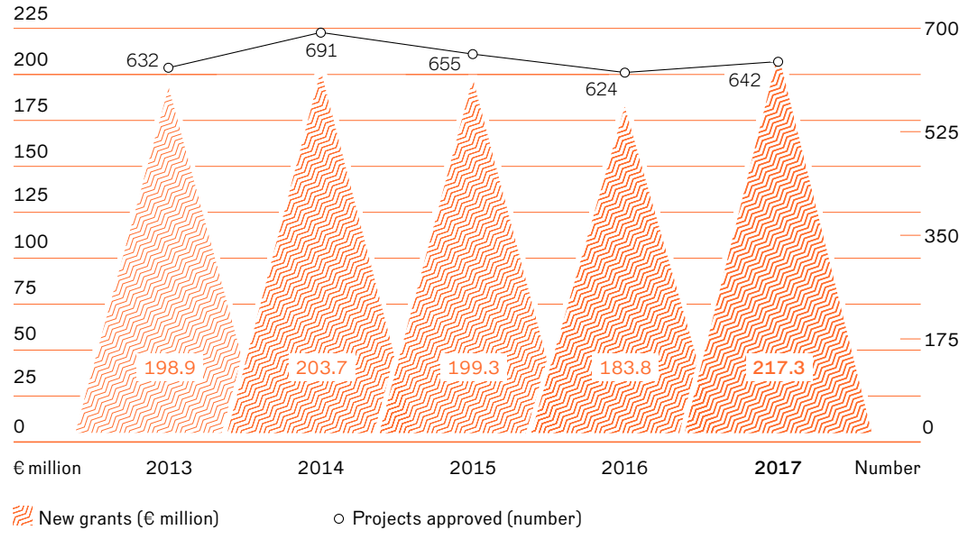


Women
Men

In 2017, over 4,000 staff involved in research were funded by the FWF. More than half were young researchers aged between 26 and 35. These figures underline the FWF's importance as a sponsor of young talent and demonstrate its contribution to the development of Austria's human capital in the field of research.

As at 31 December 2017

New grants and projects



New grants (€ million)
Projects approved (number)

Overview of research funding

Number of grants in 2016 / 2017

Programme	Decisions issued[1]		Projects approved		Approval rate (%)	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
Stand-Alone Projects (incl. Clinical Research [KLIF])	1,171	1,106	299	308	25.5	27.8
International programmes	552	466	98	106	17.8	22.7
Special Research Programmes (SFBs): new applications[3]	52	33	26	7	13.6	5.3
Special Research Programmes (SFBs): Extensions	29	24	17	20	58.6	83.3
START Programme and Wittgenstein Prize	92	108	7	7	7.6	6.5
Young Independent Researcher Groups (DKs): new applications[3]	–	5	–	4	–	25.0
Young Independent Researcher Groups (DKs): Extensions	6	8	6	7	100.0	87.5
doc.funds initiative	–	45	–	7	–	15.6
Schrödinger Programme	182	146	64	53	35.2	36.3
Meitner Programme	202	209	50	50	24.8	23.9
Firnberg and Richter Programmes (incl. Richter/PEEK)	142	157	32	38	22.5	24.2
Arts-Based Research Programme (PEEK)	49	67	8	9	16.3	13.4
Open Research Data (ORD)	–	40	–	12	–	30.0
"Science & Public" programmes (WKP, TCS)	49	41	11	12	22.4	29.3
Partnership in Research (PiR)	43	–	6	–	14.0	–
Interregional Project Network "South Tyrol-Tyrol-Trentino"[2]	–	38	–	2	–	5.3
Total	**2,569**	**2,493**	**624**	**642**	**23.7**	**25.5**
Women / Men	788 / 1,781	822 / 1,671	174 / 450	181 / 461	21.8 / 24.5	21.9 / 27.4
SFBs: outline proposals submitted / full applications approved	22	19	3	1	–	–
DKs: outline proposals submitted[2]	–	16	–	–	–	–

1 Includes applications withdrawn or not passed for review, as well as those rejected or approved
2 Decisions in 2016
3 In this case, the approval rate is the ratio of full applications approved to outline proposals submitted

Grants requested and approved (€ million) 2016 / 2017

Programme	Grants requested[1]		Grants approved		Approval rate (%)	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
Stand-Alone Projects (incl. Clinical Research [KLIF])	367.8	360.0	92.1	101.8	25.0	28.3
International programmes	142.6	131.6	22.1	27.5	15.5	20.9
Special Research Programmes (SFBs): new applications[3]	19.8	13.3	11.7	3.3	13.4	4.3
Special Research Programmes (SFBs): Extensions	11.7	11.0	6.9	8.4	58.4	76.8
START Programme and Wittgenstein Prize	114.0	131.1	8.5	8.3	7.4	6.3
Young Independent Researcher Groups (DKs): new applications[3]	–	11.6	–	7.7	–	19.0
Young Independent Researcher Groups (DKs): Extensions	17.0	23.5	13.7	17.9	80.9	76.0
doc.funds initiative	–	65.3	–	11.3	–	17.3
Schrödinger Programme	22.0	18.7	8.5	7.2	38.5	38.4
Meitner Programme	31.1	32.6	7.7	7.9	24.8	24.2
Firnberg and Richter Programmes (incl. Richter / PEEK)	36.4	40.5	8.1	9.6	22.3	23.7
Arts-Based Research Programme (PEEK)	15.9	25.1	2.8	3.4	17.7	13.5
Open Research Data (ORD)	–	8.2	–	2.2	–	27.0
"Science & Public" programmes (WKP, TCS)	2.3	1.9	0.5	0.6	20.8	31.2
Partnership in Research (PiR)	9.4	–	1.3	–	13.6	–
Interregional Project Network "South Tyrol-Tyrol-Trentino"[2]	–	4.9	–	0.3	–	5.8
Total new grants	**790.0**	**879.4**	**183.8**	**217.3**	**21.4**	**22.4**
Women / Men	221.0 / 569.0	260.5 / 619.0	48.5 / 135.3	56.7 / 160.6	19.5 / 22.2	19.8 / 23.4
Supplementary grants	–	–	4.3	5.3	–	–
Total grants	–	–	188.1	222.6	–	–
SFBs: outline proposals submitted / full applications approved	87.5	76.4	11.7	3.3	–	–
DKs: outline proposals submitted[2]	–	40.7	–	–	–	–

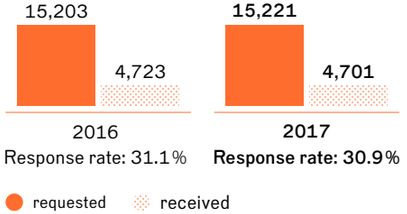
▷ For details of application and approval rates by gender, see: www.fwf.ac.at/equal-opportunities

Reviews received

by country/region (for decisions issued in 2017)

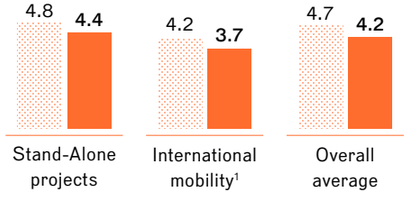
In 2017 the FWF decided on a total of 2,493 applications for grants amounting in total to €879.4 million. In the process it made over 15,200 requests for review. A total of 4,701 reviews were received from 66 different countries, and these formed the basis of the funding decisions taken by the FWF Board.

Reviews requested and received



Application processing time

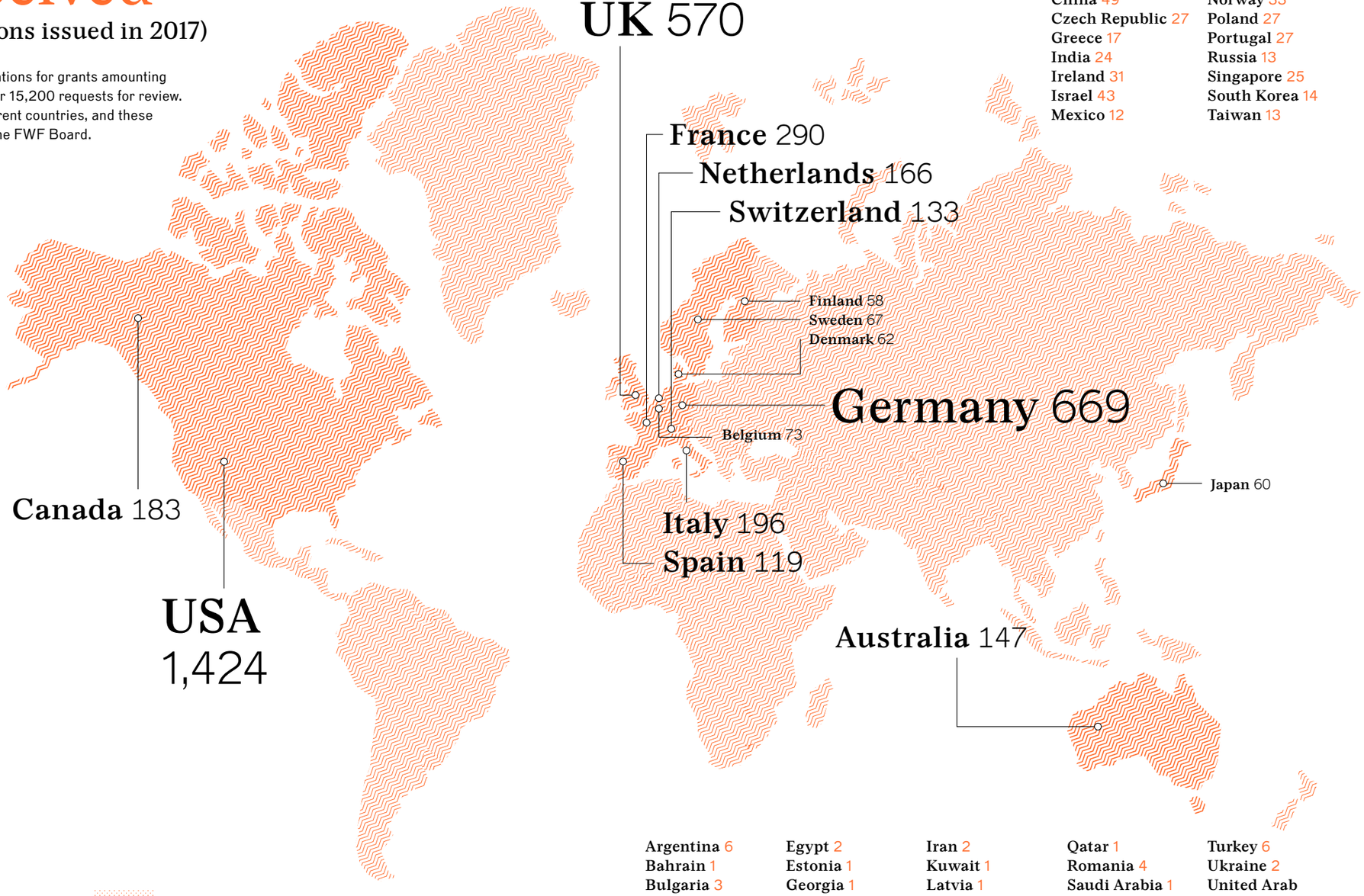
Average time in months from submission to decision



Share of reviews by region

(%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EU except Austria	35.4	33.7	36.4	36.1	37.8
USA/Canada	32.1	35.4	34.5	34.7	34.2
Germany/Switzerland	17.5	16.9	16.5	15.9	17.1
Rest of the world	11.9	12.5	12.1	13.4	11.0

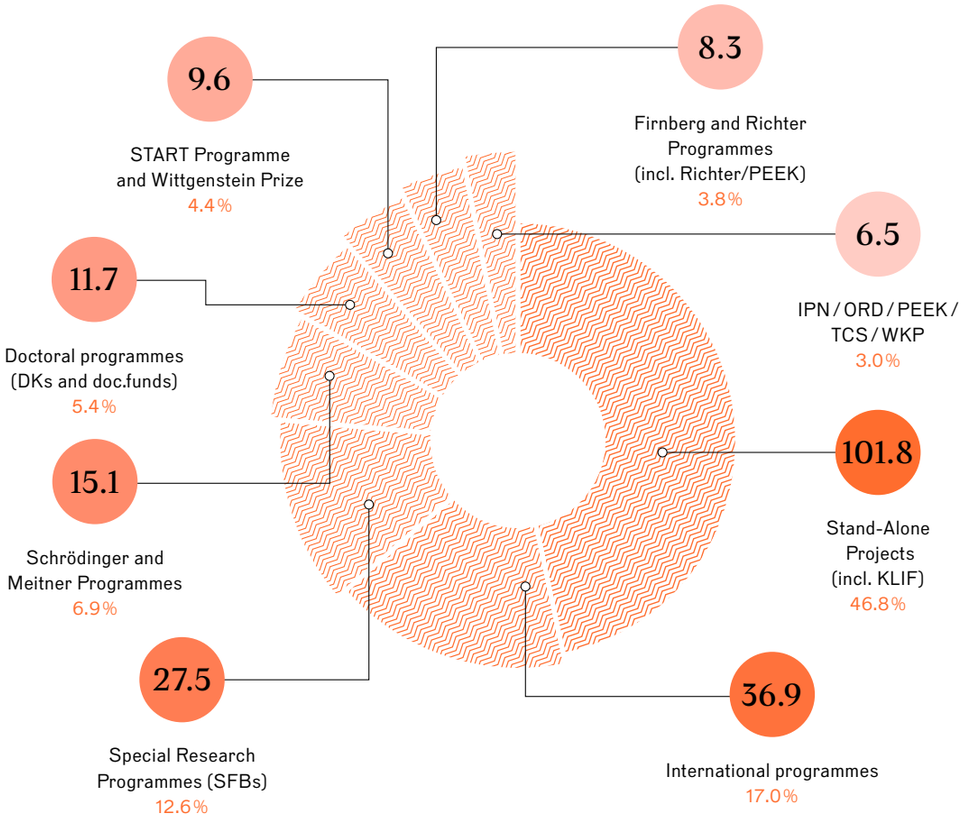


Brazil 21
China 49
Czech Republic 27
Greece 17
India 24
Ireland 31
Israel 43
Mexico 12
New Zealand 11
Norway 33
Poland 27
Portugal 27
Russia 13
Singapore 25
South Korea 14
Taiwan 13

Argentina 6
Bahrain 1
Bulgaria 3
Chile 2
Colombia 1
Costa Rica 1
Croatia 2
Cyprus 4
Egypt 2
Estonia 1
Georgia 1
Hong Kong 4
Hungary 9
Iceland 2
Indonesia 1
Iran 2
Kuwait 1
Latvia 1
Lithuania 1
Luxembourg 8
Malaysia 1
Panama 1
Qatar 1
Romania 4
Saudi Arabia 1
Serbia 3
Slovakia 3
Slovenia 9
South Africa 8
Tunisia 1
Turkey 6
Ukraine 2
United Arab Emirates 2
Uruguay 1
Venezuela 1

Grants by funding category 2017 (€ million)

(shares of the total € 217.3 million of funding approved)



International programmes

FWF funds invested in 2017 (€ million)

3.6
ERA-NETs

20.1
bilateral / Europe

3.7
bilateral / outside Europe

Publication funding

2017	€ million
Stand-alone publications	0.6
Peer-reviewed publications	2.7
– *Hybrid Open Access*	1.9
– *Gold Open Access*	0.7
– Other	0.1
Total	**3.3**
of which Open Access	3.2

Open Access overview

For many years now, the FWF has maintained one of the most effective open access policies of all funding agencies worldwide. In 2017, 90% of all quality-assured publications listed in final FWF project reports were openly accessible.

Peer-reviewed publications

	Open Access	No Open Access	Total
2015	3,779 / 83%	801 / 17%	4,580
2016	4,726 / 92%	420 / 8%	5,146
2017	5,769 / 90%	670 / 10%	6,439

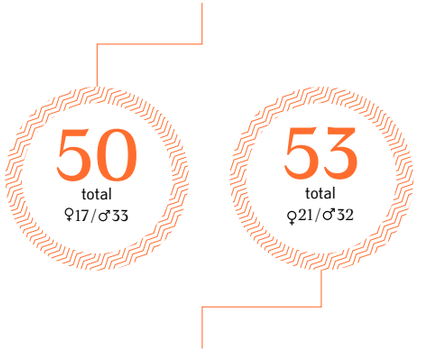
▷ Details: www.fwf.ac.at/funding-statistics

International mobility

Through the Schrödinger and Meitner mobility programmes, the FWF effectively supports young researchers in achieving scholarly independence. In 2017, 53 young Postdocs from Austria completed research stays in 14 countries around the world, from the USA to Japan. At the same time, 50 young international researchers gained experience at Austrian research institutions.

Countries of origin of Lise Meitner grantees in 2017

Argentina, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, Ukraine, USA



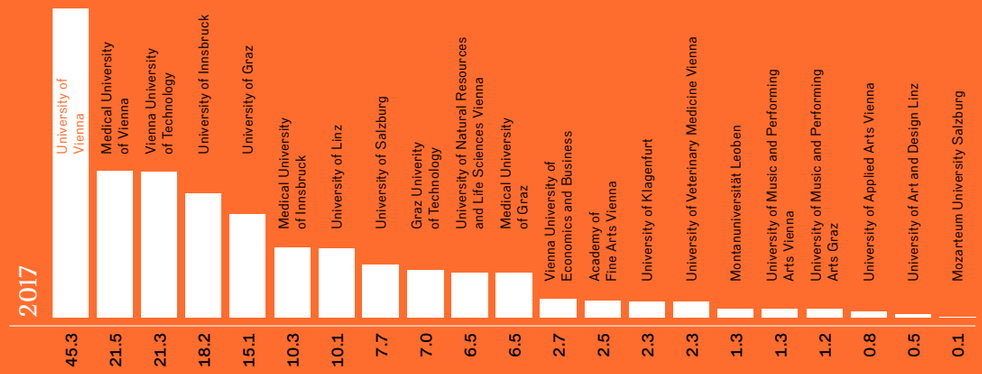
Destination countries of Erwin Schrödinger fellows in 2017

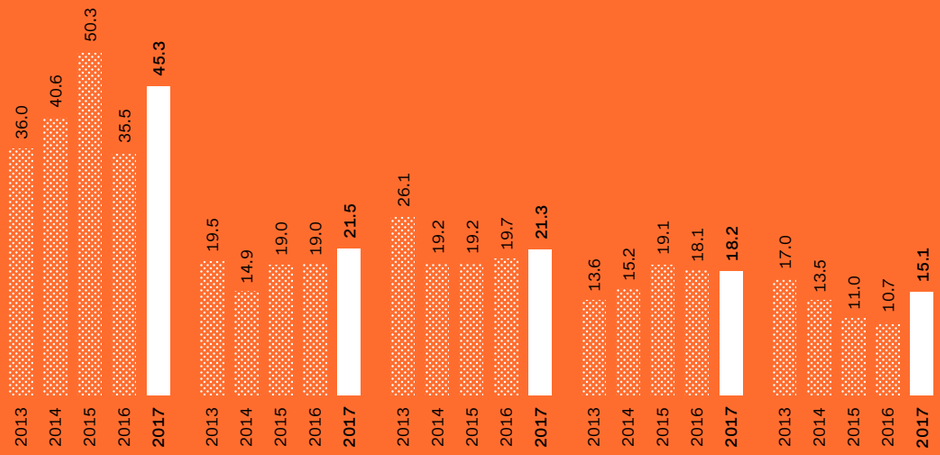
Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, South Korea, Sweden, UK, USA

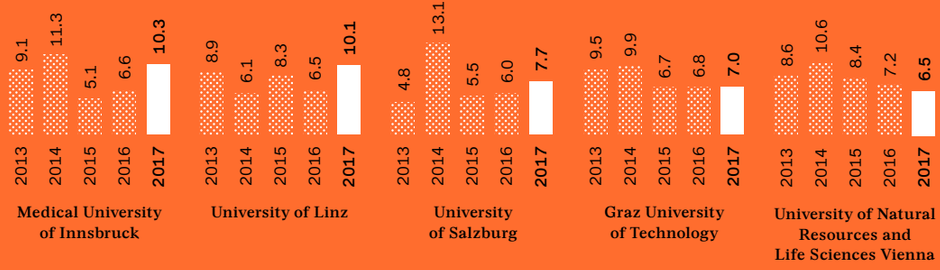
New grants approved, 2013–2017

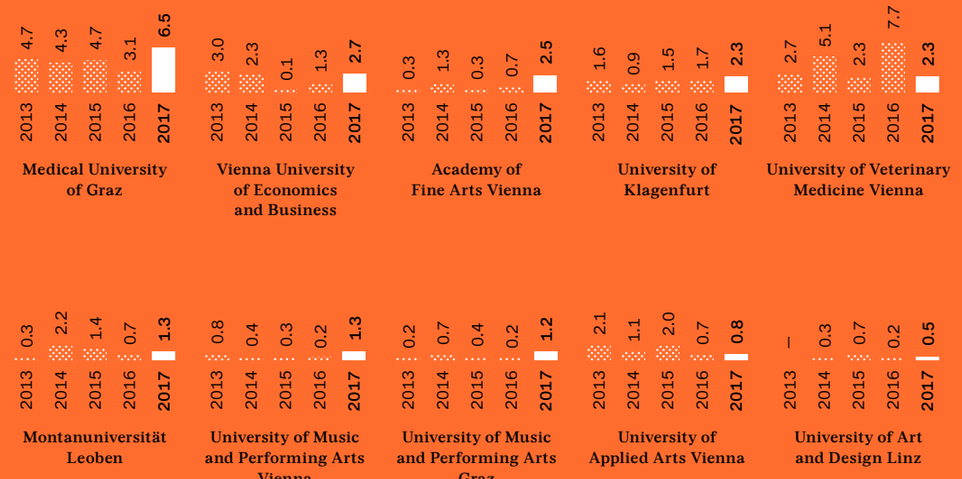
by research institution (€ million)

University research institutions

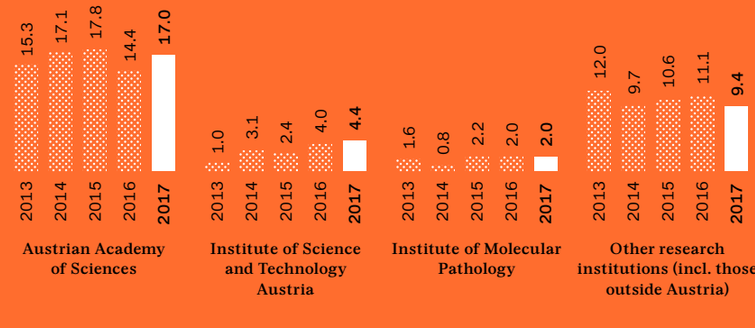








Non-university and other research institutions



	Total universities		Total non-university research institutions[2]		New FWF grants approved
	€ million	%[1]	€ million	%[1]	€ million
2013	169.0	85.0	29.9	15.0	198.9
2014	172.9	84.9	30.7	15.1	203.7
2015	166.4	83.5	32.9	16.5	199.3
2016	152.3	82.9	31.5	17.1	183.8
2017	**184.5**	**84.9**	**32.8**	**15.1**	**217.3**

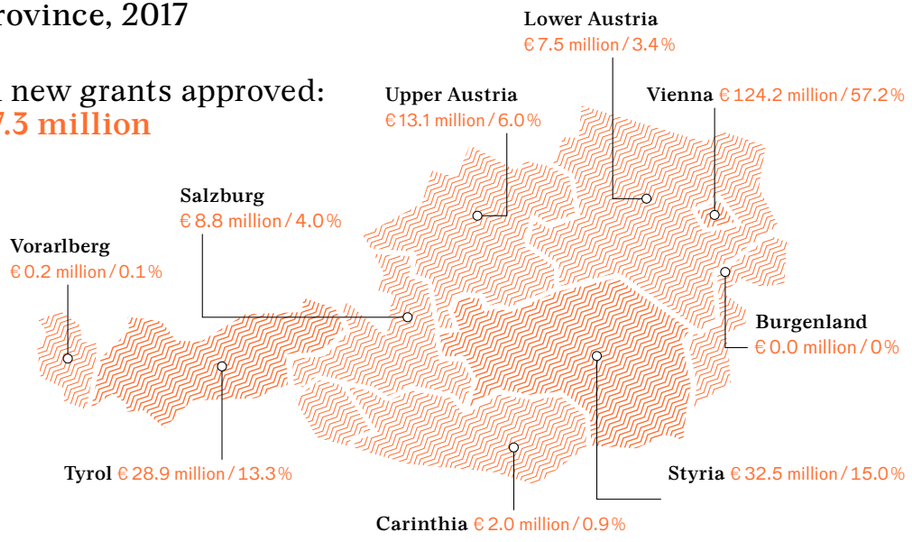
1 Share of new grants approved

2 incl. institutions outside Austria

New grants approved

by province, 2017

Total new grants approved:
€ 217.3 million



ERC grants

by host country, since 2007

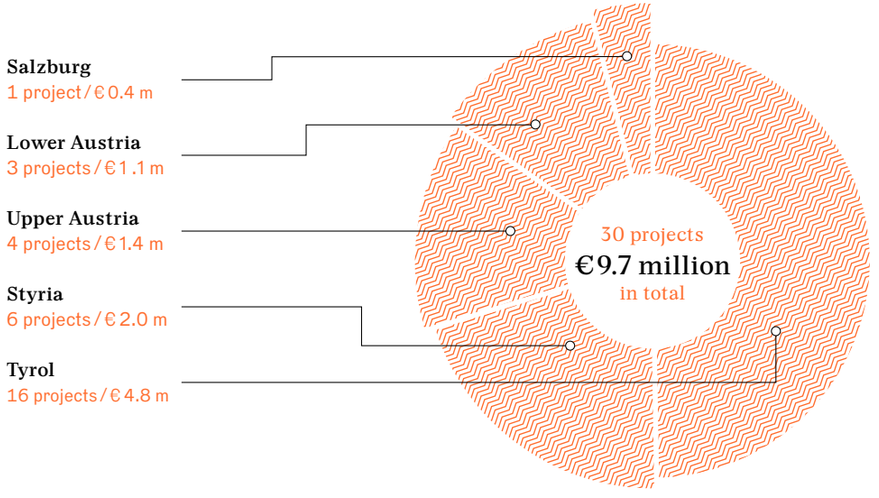
ranked by number of grants per million population[1]

Rank	Country	Population	Grants approved	Grants per million pop.
1	Switzerland	8,179,294	552	67.49
2	Israel	8,174,527	458	56.03
3	Netherlands	17,016,967	720	42.31
4	Sweden	9,880,604	279	28.24
5	Denmark	5,593,785	157	28.07
6	UK	64,430,428	1,713	26.59
7	Belgium	11,409,077	284	24.89
8	Austria	8,711,770	216	24.79
9	Finland	5,498,211	133	24.19
10	Ireland	4,952,473	87	17.57
11	France	66,836,154	1,015	15.19
12	Germany	80,722,792	1,207	14.95
13	Iceland	335,878	5	14.89
14	Luxembourg	582,291	8	13.74
15	Norway	5,265,158	71	13.48
16	Cyprus	1,205,575	15	12.44

1 (a) Excl. Advanced Grants 2017. The term "host country" refers to the country of the host institution providing a recommendation at the time of application; (b) In the case of Synergy Grants, only the project coordinator's host country is taken into account. Sources: (1) Grants: European Research Coucil (ERC), https://erc.europa.eu/projects-figures/erc-funded-projects; (2) Population figures: CIA World Factbook, July 2016, https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook

Matching funds

Numbers of projects and funding approved, 2017



Bibliometric data

Top 18 countries, 2007–2017

ranked by number of citations per 1,000 population[1]

Rank	Country	Publications	Citations	Pop. '000	Citations per pub.	Pub's per 1,000 pop.	Citations per 1,000 pop.	Most-cited pub's %
1	Switzerland	275,758	5,740,872	8,179	20.8	33.7	701.9	2.69 %
2	Iceland	9,570	218,109	335	22.8	28.6	651.1	3.05 %
3	Denmark	158,029	3,009,480	5,593	19.0	28.3	538.1	2.50 %
4	Sweden	249,887	4,400,234	9,880	17.6	25.3	445.4	1.99 %
5	Netherlands	375,258	7,429,543	17,016	19.8	22.1	436.6	2.44 %
6	Finland	122,184	2,018,243	5,498	16.5	22.2	367.1	1.84 %
7	Norway	119,204	1,903,337	5,265	16.0	22.6	361.5	1.99 %
8	Australia	528,217	8,062,350	22,992	15.3	23.0	350.7	1.90 %
9	Singapore	115,112	1,990,453	5,781	17.3	19.9	344.3	2.43 %
10	UK	1,178,160	21,636,450	64,430	18.4	18.3	335.8	2.19 %
11	Belgium	206,829	3,696,815	11,409	17.9	18.1	324.0	2.19 %
12	Canada	647,121	10,707,336	35,362	16.5	18.3	302.8	1.83 %
13	New Zealand	87,996	1,289,398	4,474	14.7	19.7	288.2	1.73 %
14	Austria	142,567	2,354,472	8,711	16.5	16.4	270.3	2.02 %
15	Ireland	77,142	1,321,148	4,952	17.1	15.6	266.8	2.14 %
16	Israel	138,431	2,163,412	8,174	15.6	16.9	264.7	1.63 %
17	USA	3,943,369	71,236,512	323,995	18.1	12.2	219.9	1.85 %
18	Germany	1,043,512	17,430,200	80,722	16.7	12.9	215.9	1.71 %

1 Sources: (1) "The Essential Science Indicators" database (as updated on 11 January 2018) covers the period of ten years and 10 months from 1 January 2007 to 31 October 2017. It is updated six times a year. (2) Most-cited publications = Top 1% of publications in the discipline concerned. (3) Population figures: CIA World Factbook, July 2016, https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook

New grants approved

by research discipline, 2017 (€ million)

2017
€217.3m
in new grants approved

Natural Sciences and Engineering

Total € 89.0 million (41.0%)

25.0 **Mathematics (11.5%)**

23.5 **Physics & Astronomy (10.8%)**

12.3 **Computer Science (5.7%)**

9.8 **Chemistry (4.5%)**

7.6 **Geosciences (3.5%)**

10.8 **Other (5.0%) – see below**

Other
Natural Sciences and Engineering

1.3 Electrical Engineering, Electronics & Information Technology (0.6%)
1.2 Nanotechnology (0.5%)
1.2 Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (0.5%)
1.1 Medical Technology (0.5%)
1.0 Environmental Engineering & Applied Geosciences (0.5%)
1.0 Industrial Biotechnology (0.5%)
0.9 Construction Engineering (0.4%)
0.8 Materials Science (0.4%)
0.6 Mechanical Engineering (0.3%)
0.5 Other natural sciences (0.2%)
0.4 Other technical sciences (0.2%)
0.3 Chemical Process Engineering (0.1%)
0.3 Other agricultural sciences (0.1%)
0.1 Environmental Biotechnology (0.1%)
0.1 Livestock Breeding & Animal Husbandry (<0.1%)

Biology and Medicine

Total € 78.7 million (36.2%)

43.3 **Biology (19.9%)**

23.5 **Theoretical Medicine & Pharmacology (10.8%)**

8.8 **Clinical Medicine (4.1%)**

3.0 **Other (1.4%) – see below**

Other
Biology and Medicine

2.0 Health Sciences (0.9%)
0.6 Veterinary Medicine (0.3%)
0.3 Other human medicine and health sciences (0.1%)
0.2 Medical Biotechnology (0.1%)

Humanities and Social Sciences

Total € 49.6 million (22.8%)

8.8 **Linguistics and Literature Studies (4.0%)**

8.1 **History & Archaeology (3.7%)**

6.8 **Business & Economics (3.1%)**

5.8 **Philosophy, Ethics & Theology (2.7%)**

5.5 **Art & Art History (2.5%)**

14.7 **Other (6.8%) – see below**

Other
Humanities and Social Sciences

3.8 Other humanities disciplines (1.8%)
3.8 Sociology (1.7%)
2.8 Psychology (1.3%)
1.0 Law (0.5%)
1.0 Media & Communication Sciences (0.4%)
0.9 Political Science (0.4%)
0.6 Human Geography, Regional Geography & Urban Planning (0.3%)
0.5 Other social sciences (0.2%)
0.3 Education Science (0.2%)

2016 (€ million)

2016
€183.8m
in new grants approved

Natural Sciences and Engineering

Total € 77.2 million (42.0%)

26.0 **Mathematics (14.1%)**

19.9 **Physics & Astronomy (10.8%)**

8.1 **Computer Science (4.4%)**

8.0 **Chemistry (4.4%)**

6.1 **Geosciences (3.3%)**

9.0 **Other (4.9%) – see below**

Other
Natural Sciences and Engineering

1.9 Nanotechnology (1.0%)
1.5 Electrical Engineering, Electronics & Information Technology (0.8%)
1.1 Materials Science (0.6%)
0.9 Construction Engineering (0.5%)
0.7 Livestock Breeding & Animal Husbandry (0.4%)
0.6 Other natural sciences (0.3%)
0.5 Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (0.3%)
0.4 Environmental Engineering & Applied Geosciences (0.2%)
0.4 Industrial Biotechnology (0.2%)
0.4 Medical Technology (0.2%)
0.3 Other technical sciences (0.2%)
0.1 Environmental Biotechnology (0.1%)
0.1 Mechanical Engineering (<0.1%)
0.1 Agricultural Biotechnology & Food Biotechnology (<0.1%)
0.1 Chemical Process Engineering (<0.1%)

Biology and Medicine

Total € 69.7million (37.9%)

36.8 **Biology (20.0%)**

21.8 **Theoretical Medicine & Pharmacology (11.9%)**

8.1 **Clinical Medicine (4.4%)**

2.9 **Other (1.6%) – see below**

Other
Biology and Medicine

1.6 Health Sciences (0.9%)
0.9 Veterinary Medicine (0.5%)
0.4 Medical Biotechnology (0.2%)
0.1 Other human medicine and health sciences (<0.1%)

Humanities and Social Sciences

Total € 36.8 million (20.0%)

6.2 **History & Archaeology (3.4%)**

5.8 **Business & Economics (3.2%)**

5.3 **Linguistics & Literature Studies (2.9%)**

4.4 **Philosophy, Ethics & Theology (2.4%)**

3.8 **Art & Art History (2.1%)**

11.3 **Other (6.2%) – see below**

Other
Humanities and Social Sciences

2.7 Psychology (1.5%)
2.6 Sociology (1.4%)
1.5 Law (0.8%)
1.2 Other humanities disciplines (0.7%)
0.9 Human Geography, Regional Geography & Urban Planning (0.5%)
0.8 Education Science (0.4%)
0.7 Political Science (0.4%)
0.5 Other social sciences (0.3%)
0.4 Media & Communication Sciences (0.2%)

Participation in ERA-NETs

2004–2017

38
ERA-NET networks

63
calls

149
funded projects

12 networks with ongoing participation, 2017

E-RARE 3
Rare diseases

ERA CoSysMed
Systems medicine

TRANSCAN-2
Cancer research

ERA-CVD
Cardiovascular diseases

NEURON III
Neuroscience

ERA PerMed
Personalised medicine

HERA
Humanities

NORFACE
Social sciences

BiodivERsA3
Biodiversity

CHISTERA 2
Information technology

FLAG-ERA II
Future Emerging Technologies

QuantERA
Quantum technology

Who to contact

Email addresses ([first name].[last name]@fwf.ac.at) and telephone extensions are available at: www.fwf.ac.at//en/fwf-team
Office hours: Mon–Thu, 8am to 5pm, Fri, 8am to 3pm. Tel.: +43 1 505 67 40; Email: office@fwf.ac.at

Executive Board
MAUTNER Gerlinde
TOCKNER Klement
VAKIANIS Artemis
WEIHS Gregor
ZECHNER Ellen

Assistants
LANDERL Katharina
PATHIRANA Himali

Staff Departments
BANOZA Manuela
DALLABRIDA Silvia
KRANEWITTER Stefan
NOVAK Rudolf

Public Relations & Science Communication
BUSCHMANN Katrin
LADNER Ingrid
RUEFF Natascha
SCHWARZ-STIGLBAUER Margit
SEUMENICHT Marc

Biology & Medicine
FORTMANN Iris
GINDL Milojka
HUMER-STRUNZ Vera
KUBICEK Markus
LINNAU Ena K.
MAYER Herbert
REITNER Bettina
RESCH Stephanie
STÜRTZ Anita
TALLIAN Thomas
UNFRIED Inge
WIESBÖCK Martina
WISKOCIL Nicola

Humanities & Social Sciences
ABDEL-KADER Sabina
ASAMER Beatrix
BOHLE Petra
CECH Paul
GRABNER Petra
HADLER Simon
HASLINGER Doris
MARUSKA Monika
RÜCKLINGER Georg
SCHERAG Eva
SCHWARZENFELD Ilonka
WALD Andrea
WEISSENBÖCK Maria

Natural Sciences & Engineering
DIMOVIC Natascha
DOGAN Sahire
FRIEDL Johanna
HINTERMAIER Christophe
HUTTUNEN Kati
LÖSCHER Bettina
MASZL-KANTNER Christian
MIKSITS David
OBERBAUER Maria
SEUMENICHT Elvisa
UTTENTHALER Stefan

Strategy: Career Development
GASS Robert
HANISCH Alexander
RECCHI Simone
SCHMIDT Reinhard
STÖSS-AICHMAYER Barbara
TASCH Claudia
WOYTACEK Susanne
WYSOCKI Eva Lidia
ZIMMERMANN Barbara

Strategy: International Programmes
BÄRENREUTER Christoph
BELOCKY Reinhard
LAWAL Beatrice
XIE Feng

Strategy: Austrian Programmes
AHSEN Uwe von
HAUBENWALLNER Sabine
MADRITSCH Alexandra
MANDL Mario
OBERRAUFNER Gerit
SCHIFFERMÜLLER Andreas
WOITECH Birgit

Strategy: Policy, Evaluation, Analysis
KIRINDI-HENTSCHEL Ünzüle
KRONEISL Harald
KUNZMANN Martina
MATT Ina
RECKLING Falk
REIMANN Ralph
RIECK Katharina
ZINÖCKER Klaus

Finance
HABACHT Kerstin
MATTULA Monika
NAROZNY Renate
NOVAK Barbara
SCHIRMER Regina
STROBL Nicolas
THURIN Priya
ZOUFAL Luiza

Auditing
KREMSER Petra
KUNTNER Robert
SNOREK Sandra
THÖRNBLOM Elisabeth
WULF-HUBER Isabell

IT
ERNST Joachim
HIRSCH Wolfgang
MÜLLER Benedikt
SETZER Martina
STANIMIROVIC Nikola
WEBER Daniela
WURZ Gerald

Organisation & Human Resources
ANDERL-DUBROVINA Eleonora
BRANDSTÄTTER Angelika
ILIC Slavica
WEIBOLD Gerlinde

Legal Affairs & Quality Assurance
KRAJNC Doris
SPIESZ Susanne
STELZER Sibylle
VARGA Ulrike

As at 28 February 2018

Publishing information

Media owner
Austrian Science Fund (FWF)

Haus der Forschung
Sensengasse 1, 1090 Wien
office@fwf.ac.at, +43 1 505 67 40
www.fwf.ac.at, scilog.fwf.ac.at
@fwf_at, @fwfopenaccess

FWF President: Klement Tockner
Academic Vice-Presidents: Gerlinde Mautner, Gregor Weihs, Ellen Zechner
Executive Vice-President: Artemis Vakianis
Data analysis: Ralph Reimann
Editor (German original): Ingrid Ladner

Art direction & design: HammerAlbrecht
(Tom Albrecht, Daniel Hammer, Alexandra Varsek)
Translation: Chris Ross
Copy editing: Maria Lord
Photo credits: p33 – Michèle Pauty (1, 2), Jens Jeske (3), p34 – Martin Lusser
(4, 5, 6), S. 35 – NSFC (7), Michèle Pauty (8), Wolfgang Lackner (9)
Printing: EBERL PRINT GmbH

ISBN: 978-3-903145-06-1

Note: Figures cited in this report may display slight differences due to rounding errors.

Vienna, May 2018

FWF
Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

“Progress is impossible without basic research.”

Emmanuelle Charpentier

Microbiologist & discoverer of
the gene cutter CRISPR-Cas9

www.fwf.ac.at