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By the Mayor and Governor of the City of Vienna

Dr. Michael Häupl

By the Executive City Councillor of Finance, Economic Affairs and Vienna Public Enterprises

Mag.ª Renate Brauner

By the Host Committee

Leonore Langner, BA Susanna Markowitsch Michaela Zolles





To the Board of the World Association for Person-Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling

Vienna, March 2014

Dear members of the Board,

in my capacity as Mayor of the City of Vienna I take great pleasure in inviting you most cordially to hold the World PCE-Conference in Vienna in 2018.

Vienna is well known for its cosmopolitan flair and for being one of the world's leading convention destinations. Its climate of openness and understanding makes it an ideal backdrop for all kinds of meetings such as medical conferences, technical symposia, corporate meetings and major international scientific conferences.

History has provided ample proof of Vienna's role as a prominent meeting place. The City's active commitment to research, its prospering economy and excellent conference facilities, combined with the professional experience of highly skilled management personnel, are the best guarantee for a successful continuation of this tradition. Today, Vienna is home to the United Nations and to other international organisations like IAEA, UNIDO, OPEC and IIASA. Moreover, Vienna is simply a great place to be: the Mercer Quality of Living Survey 2012 has ranked Vienna as number 1 worldwide!

I am confident that Vienna's attractions, its rich cultural life, stimulating arts and music scene, its refined lifestyle, traditional elegance and emphasis on first-rate service will provide an enjoyable and valuable complement to your meetings.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Michael Häupl

Mayor and Governor of Vienna

#### MAG. A RENATE BRAUNER

VIZEBÜRGERMEISTERIN UND LANDESHAUPTMANN-STELLVERTRETERIN AMTSFÜHRENDE STADTRÄTIN FÜR FINANZEN, WIRTSCHAFTSPOLITIK UND WIENER STADTWERKE VON WIEN

To the Board of the World Association for Person-Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling

Vienna, March 2014

Dear members of the Board,

as member of the Provincial Government in charge of tourism I take the pleasure in cordially inviting you to hold the World PCE-Congress in Vienna in 2018.

Vienna presents itself as the most sophisticated and distinguished venue for conventions. The climate of tolerance and understanding creates ideal conditions for international meetings. Vienna offers an extremely favourable ground for conferences. This has not only been proven by important meetings of the world superpowers but also by a great number of scientific meetings held in this city, chosen especially for its excellent reputation for scientific research and its flourishing economy. Vienna's excellent infrastructure makes the individual delegate's experience of attending a meeting in Vienna most enjoyable and as memorable as possible.

I definitely hope to welcome your convention to Vienna!

Yours sincerely,

Mag<sup>a</sup>. Renate Brauner

Vice Mayor and Executive City Councillor of

Finance, Economic Affairs and

Vienna Public Enterprises of the City of Vienna

#### PROPOSAL TO HOST THE 2018 WAPCEPC CONFERENCE

Michaela Zolles, Leonore Langner, and Susanna Markowitsch, three dedicated women, members of the Board of APG-IPS respectively co-director of the psychotherapy training program "Propädeutikum", propose to host the 2018 World Association for Person Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling (WAPCEPC) biennial Conference in *Vienna*, *Austria*.

We propose that the Conference take place from *July 6 – 12, 2018*, with a pre-congress, scheduled from July 6 – 8; the Conference is scheduled from July 8 – 12 (including the General Assembly). According to our research there should be no overlap with any international religious holidays.

For the Conference theme we recommend the title

#### "Facilitating Hope – Personal and Societal Challenges"

After the World Conferences in Buenos Aires and New York we do feel that a World Conference in Vienna, the "heart" of Europe, will be able to attract participants from all parts of the globe in 2018.

Not only is Vienna ideal for participants from all over the world due to its international airport, but it will also enable participants from Eastern Europe to travel more easily due to relatively short distances and good public transport connections. We do plan to offer fees staggered according to the financial situation of participants from developing countries, in order to make the Conference as accessible as possible.

We are looking forward to organize an interesting Conference that comprises the wide variety of orientations and cultures within the person-centered and experiential psychotherapy and counseling world. We are looking forward to a Conference that offers up-to-date scientific inputs as well as possibilities for participants to respectfully debate topics and engage in personal and individual dialogue. We will definitely offer an accompanying international encounter group.

In order to ensure that any participant will be able to fully engage in this Conference, we plan to provide "special offers", e.g. Child Day Care. During the Conference there will be a "Special Needs Person" available 24 hours in order to fulfill the requirements that might occur during the Conference.

We are open to any requirements and/or suggestions necessary to help us host the 2018 WAPCEPC Conference in Vienna. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Leonore Langner Susanna Markowitsch

Michaela Zolles

# Information from the Organizers 02

# Hosts and Core Organizing Team:

According to the WAPCEPC guidelines for future organization of the World PCE-Conferences the organizing team has a core of three dedicated persons:

Leonore Langner, Susanna Markowitsch and Michaela Zolles. We were trained at APG-IPS Austria and currently work as person-centered psychotherapists and counselors in Vienna. Michaela Zolles and Leonore Langner are chair and vice chair of APG-IPS, Susanna Markowitsch

is co-director of the psychotherapy training program "Propädeutikum".



Leonore Langner

"Former international PCE conferences gave us the inspiration to apply for the organization of a World Conference in Vienna. During the last year we intensively worked together on the realization of our idea. During that time we did a lot of research, contacted former organizers and had meetings with expert persons of various fields. Our abstract enthusiasm of 2012 became more specific and got a basic orientation and a concrete conception – nevertheless we are glad to have kept our passion and joy about the possibility to organize the PCE World Conference in our home town Vienna, in the heart of Europe. We are in dialogue with persons from all person-centered Austrian associations to participate in the organization of the conference."



Susanna Markowitsch

"We ensure to have the capacity to address the administrative, financial, publicity and cross-cultural aspects of hosting an international conference. A period of four years ahead gives us time to build a strong base, enabling us to steadily work for our goal. We have already taken important steps concerning the conception of the organization of this International Conference: we have had a couple of meetings with companies and individuals concerning congress organization, legal advice, financial aspects, scientific demands, publicity, cross-cultural aspects, IT-infrastructure, etc. They committed to support us and work together with us for a smooth organization and successful conference. We expect record participation at a conference in Vienna, Austria."



Michaela Zolles

"Looking at present challenges from different perspectives may lead to a wider range of ideas and possibilities to meet them. Considering the variety within the person-centered and experiential psychotherapy and counseling world, we can draw from a rich body of knowledge and from an impressive pool of experiences. On the one hand our main objective is to offer topics, lectures, supporting theories and inputs based on an upto-date scientific level with ambitious content. On the other hand we will do our best to provide an atmosphere that facilitates respectful debates as well as personal and individual dialogue and encounter experiences."

# Information from the Organizers 02

#### Organization Committee:

By now the following persons have committed to being ready to organize a successful PCE World Conference in Vienna in 2018.:

Langner Leonore Markowitsch Susanna Mliner Susanne Zolles Michaela

The person-centered associations IPS-APG and ÖGWG have assured their support of the PCE World Conference 2018 in Vienna. Should our bid be accepted by the WAPCEPC members in July and Vienna will host the PCE World Conference 2018, further persons (across Austrian person-centered associations) will be invited to join the Organization Committee".

#### Scientific Committee:

We propose the following members of a Scientific Committee, well-considered concerning heterogeneity and international variety of perspectives and orientations within the PCE. We propose Peter F. Schmid as chair of the Scientific Committee and have received the commitment of the following persons to be part in a Scientific Committee 2018, Vienna (in alphabetical order; subject to changes in the future, titles dropped)

Bohart Art, USA
Elliott Robert, Scotland
Frenzel Peter, Austria
Gahleitner Silke, Germany
Hipolito Joao, Portugal
Ikemi Akira, Japan
Iossifides Marina, Greece
Keys Suzanne, England
Korunka Christian, Austria
Kryuchkov Kirill, Russian Federation
Madu Sylvester, South Africa (invited)
Murphy David, England
Neville Bernie, Australia

O'Hara Maureen, USA
Priels Jean-Marc, Belgium
Przyborski Aglaja, Austria
Rud Claudio, Argentina
Sanders Pete, England
Sauer Joachim, Austria
Stiles Bill, USA
Stipsits Reinhold, Austria
Timmerman Angelique, Netherlands
Timulak Ladislav, Slovakia/Ireland
Warner Margret, USA
Wolter-Gustafson Carol, USA
Zucconi Alberto, Italy

We are planning to offer interpretations of the keynotes and major lectures from English into Spanish, in order to make it easier for colleagues from Latin America to attend the congress in Vienna. Furthermore we think about offering interpretations into German and Eastern European languages.

"Facilitating Hope - Personal and Societal Challenges."

The process of finding a theme for the World Conference in 2018 was accompanied by many issues, some of them mentioned below. Based on our thoughts and ideas we would like to invite all participants to develop a wide range of aspects – enriched with scientific findings and expert opinions as well as with personal conclusions and experiences.

Present revolutions and upheavals all over the world impose demands on single persons, exceeding natural performance limits. Furthermore the results of value shifts become apparent on different levels.

Each single person increasingly faces a challenge to decide autonomously, to create life designs oneself and to establish flexible adjustment mechanism. Often this is tempting to fall back on societal rules and regulations unquestioned. This leads to a self, refraining from basic and integrated experiences and veering away from actualizing tendencies. A coherent inner structure is being replaced by vague and often scary fragments of experience. All these processes influence our clients, who hope to find support in dealing with these challenges in the person of a psychotherapist or counselor.

In order to remain effective as psychotherapists/counselors and facilitators within the present changes and upheavals, it needs phases of regeneration for therapists. The psychotherapist has to increasingly focus on him/herself as a person apart from psychotherapeutic processes in order to retain the necessary emotional stability as well as retain and strengthen the possibility to create viable relationships. How else is it possible to live up to our role of a forward-looking white hope? How else are we able to feel our own hope amidst hopelessness, come to trust in it and convey it to others?

The meaning of the person-centered and experiential approach becomes evident at the brim of hope and despair: relatedness and solidarity antagonize fragmenting processes, inner valuation authorities create an independence from discouraged drivenness. The opportunities lying within the person centered and experiential approach may provide essential elements to overstep contemporary boundaries and establish more flexible and more authentic ways of living.

## Sigmund Freud University Vienna





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The new building of the Sigmund Freud University is currently under construction and is scheduled to be completed in March 2015. This new and architecturally thrilling university campus, designed by the well-renowned Swiss architects Holzer Kobler will be situated adjacent to the University of Economics, only recently inaugurated. This new university campus is in the center of the Vienna Prater, a well-known local Viennese recreation area. The university campus is only a 2 minutes' walking distance from the underground station with direct connection to the city center (Town Hall, Burgtheater).

We already have the commitment of SFU Sigmund Freud University (www.sfu.ac.at) as conference venue for the 2018 World PCE Conference in Vienna.



©Holzer Kobler Architekturen

As the conference site is currently under construction, it will meet the latest construction standard specifications and will therefore be a state of the art project for disabled-friendly building.

As the university campus comprises dormitories, we will also be able to offer low-cost accommodation possibilities in addition to the regular conference accommodation.

The new SFU building provides sufficient spatial capacity, offering an Auditorium Maximum as well as a couple of lecture and seminar rooms. Congress participants will be able to attend keynotes, workshops, lectures, encounter groups within one building!

## Reception by the Mayor of Vienna

Subject to a formal application and the approval by the Mayor, the City of Vienna is ready to provide free of charge the Festive Hall of the City Hall for a reception.

Participants of the 2018 WAPCEPC Conference will enjoy a special evening with Viennese atmosphere in the City Hall.

#### **Austrian Airlines**

The Austrian Airlines Group is pleased to support the 2018 WAPCEPC Conference and act as "Official Carrier".

## Financial Support from the Vienna Convention Bureau

The Vienna Convention Bureau grants financial assistance to organizers of international association congresses from November through to March as well as in July and August.

# **Advertising Material**

Attendees of the WAPCEPC Conference will be provided with information kits including a City Map, a monthly program of events and a general brochure on Vienna by the Vienna Convention Bureau.

#### Convention Calender

The WAPCEPC Conference will be publicized online in the Vienna Convention Calendar on www.vienna.convention.at, directly linked to the WAPCEPC Conference webpage.

#### Flexible Congress Ticket - individual online purchase

Wiener Linien, the public transport in Vienna, offers a special rover ticket to delegates and accompanying persons, that provides unlimited use of the public transport network for the entire duration of the convention.



Vienna, the Meeting City. Vienna has established an outstanding reputation as conference city. For 8 years in a row, Vienna has been the number 1 destination worldwide for association meetings (Source: Internationals Congress & Convention Association statistics 2005-2012). Vienna provides all the infrastructure and professionalism required to successfully organize the 2018 WAPCEPC Conference in Vienna.

Vienna, the destination for Green Meetings. Environmentally, Vienna is a model city meeting all the relevant criteria applying for instance to water supply and waste water management, waste disposal, clean air management and the city's overall ecological balance. Vienna is not only a city of science, but also internationally renowned as a capital of the environment.

Vienna, the University City. Vienna is the location of 9 universities and 4 private universities:

University of Vienna

Medical University of Vienna

Technical University of Vienna

University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna

Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration

University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna

Academy of Fine Arts Vienna

University of Applied Arts Vienna

University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna

Conservatory Vienna

Modul University Vienna

Sigmund Freud University

Webster University Vienna

Vienna, the Science City. Vienna has a long history of excellent scientific and medical research: Semmelweis, Billroth and Landsteiner are all part of this proud history. The traditions of the Vienna Medical School are expressed today in a focus on medical biotechnology centering on vaccinations, antiinfectives, immunology and oncology. It is also the largest thoracic transplantation center in Europe. In the 1990s a vibrant life sciences scene began to develop in Vienna alongside the larger international corporations already located in the area. A recent study has revealed that Vienna is currently home to 140 life sciences companies.



Vienna, the Origin of Psychotherapy. Many notables of psychotherapy lived in Vienna: Sigmund Freud, Alfred Adler, Otto Rank, August Aichhorn, Jacob Levi Moreno, Viktor Frankl. The city is the birthplace of Heinz Kohut, Otto Kernberg, Eugene Gendlin and many others. Stroll through the Freud-Museum and see where the founder of modern psychotherapy had his private practice. Visit the Sigmund Freud University and its Department for Person-Centered Psychotherapy - the first university worldwide with a complete study of psychotherapy science where different orientations co-operate in research and training, each refining their own profile, challenging and enriching each other.

# Vienna, the Quality of Life City.

Quality of Living: # 1 worldwide

Ahead of Zurich and Aukland, Worldwide Quality of Living Survey 2013, (Mercer Human Resource Consulting, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)

Most liveable cities: # 1 in Europe, # 2 worldwide behind Melbourne (The Economist Intelligence Unit's liveability survey, August 2012)

Smart Cities (in terms of innovation, technology and sustainability): #1 worldwide (American climate strategist Boyd Cohen)

City RepTrak® Study: # 2 worldwide behind Sydney, ex-aequo with Toronto and Stockholm Reputation Institute's 2013 City RepTrak® Study, November 2013

Vienna, clean, green and safe. Participants will feel comfortable when discovering the numerous facets of Vienna. No other city in the whole of Europe can boast a higher ratio of green space to total area than Vienna. Forests, grassland, parks and gardens cover some 20,000 hectares or about half of the city. The Vienna Woods are the green lung of the city.

Safest countries: # 4 worldwide Behind Iceland, Denmark, New Zealand (United Nations Global Peace Index 2013)



Personal Safety: # 5 worldwide

Vienna behind Luxembourg (# 1), Berne, Helsinki and Zurich.

(Mercer, Personal Safety Ranking 2011)

European Green City Index 2009: # 4 in Europe

Behind Copenhagen, Stockholm, Oslo. Energy, buildings, transport, water, waste and land use, air quality, environmental governance, CO2. Source: European Green City Index 2009, Economist Intelligence Unit, published by Siemens, December 2009

Vienna, located in the very heart of Europe. This is of benefit to all participants, who will be able to reach Vienna easily. The direct flight time from any European capital to Vienna does not exceed 3 hours. There are no restrictions whatsoever for citizens of any country of the world to enter Austria.

Vienna, gateway to Eastern Europe. Vienna lies in the center of the new Europe and thus, of a market of more than 450 million people. Due to its geographic location, Vienna has optimum links to the new growth markets in Central and Eastern Europe. More than 300 international corporations have set up their Eastern European headquarters in Vienna. Major international organisations, such as the UN, UNIDO, IAEA and OPEC, are based in this city.

Vienna, the Imperial City. Walk in the footsteps of the Habsburgs, visit the splendid baroque Schönbrunn Palace and the Spanish Riding School, or stroll along the magnificent Ring Boulevard and take a look at the heart of the former vast Habsburg Empire, the Imperial Palace.

Vienna, the Metropolis of Music. Strike the right note at first-rate concerts and enjoy an unrivalled selection of music – from opera to musical. More famous composers have lived here than in any other city – in Vienna, music is literally in the air: Waltzes and operettas have their home here, and so do musicals "made in Vienna," which have conquered international audiences.

Vienna's Art Treasures. Discover Vienna's rich heritage and the latest achievements in art and architecture – from the magnificent Ringstrasse to the trendy MuseumsQuartier, one of the world's ten largest culture complexes.



# Vienna, Facts and Figures.

Area: 414 sq.km

No. districts: 23

Population: 1.7 million

Altitude: 171 m above sea level

Language: German, English is widely spoken as a second language

Currency: € Euro

The Austrian economy is very dependable. No bad surprises for congress organizers - Austria's inflation rate is low, as is its unemployment rate.



### Hotel Infrastructure

The participants of the WAPCEPC Conference will find any category of accommodation they desire in Vienna. The choice ranges from luxury hotels in former city palaces, international and Austrian Hotel chains and family-run establishments through to small, quaint pensions and youth hostels.

# Average Room prices

Summer Hotels (1 July – 30 Single Double	September)  € 40.00  € 60.00	to to	€ 60.00 € 80.00
Two Star Hotels Single Double	€ 50.00	to	€ 75.00
	€ 75.00	to	€ 105.00
Three Star Hotels Single Double	€ 75.00	to	€ 105.00
	€ 100.00	to	€ 165.00
Four Star Hotels Single Double	€ 130.00	to	€ 220.00
	€ 160.00	to	€ 275.00
Five Star Hotels in the City Centre (such as Hilton, Marriott, InterContinental, etc.)  Single $\in$ 220.00 to $\in$ 300.00  Double $\in$ 220.00 to $\in$ 320.00			

Prices according to official hotel guide 2014

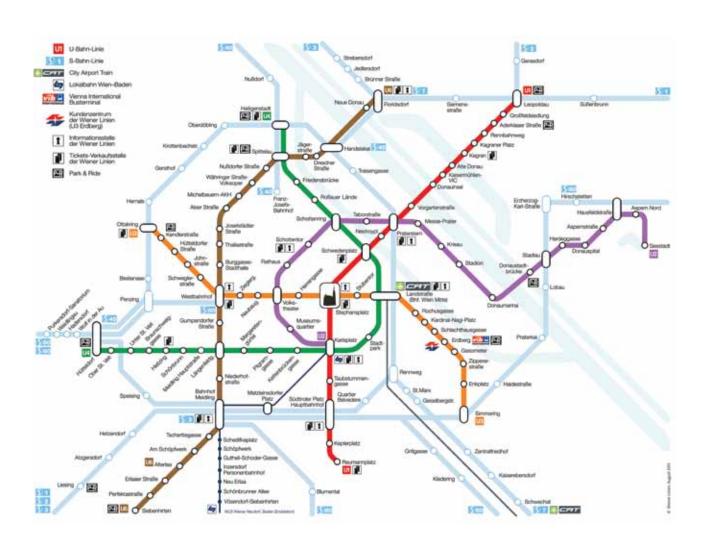


The average inner-European flight time is 2 hours. Vienna International Airport combines an extensive route network and perfect infrastrucutre as well as high comfort and excellent orientation systems with an extensive range of air and road cennections between Eastern and Western Europe. That makes Vienna International Airport a gateway to the entire world for travelers. The City Airport Train (CAT) takes only 16 minutes to reach the Vienna city center.



# Wiener Linien (Vienna Transport Authority)

- Most modern and efficient network (5 underground lines, 29 tram routes and 107 bus routes, 20 night buses)
- Short waiting times (at peak times between 3 and 5 minutes, in the evening hours between
   5 and 15 minutes, night buses operate at half-hourly intervals)
- Operating hours daily from 5.00 a.m. to 0.30 a.m., night buses from 0.30 to 5.00 a.m.
- 24 hours operating time on undergrounds on weekends
- Safe, clean, efficient, easily accessible and offers good value for money. This was proven by a European wide test of public transportation systems in metropolises conducted by the Austrian Automobile Club ÖAMTC, where Vienna was ranked 3rd after Munich and Helsinki.



# Pre- and Post- Convention Tours 10

We are planning to offer post- convention tours. Please find following some delightful examples to the surroundings of Vienna or more distant places.

Wachau, a part of the Danube Valley of distinctive beauty is well worth spending a couple of days. Ride along the Danube on a cruise ship, sip wine at a Heurigen, visit some of the castles holding the banks of the Danube, such as the one where Richard the Lion-Heart was imprisoned.

Lake Neusiedl - endless sunny days, a wide country side, rolling hills, a wide sky, storks, roofs thatched with straw. The reflecting water surface is surrounded by reed and sprinkled with many colorful and white spots - the sails of the windsurfers and sailing boats. This lake offers ideal wind conditions! The "Puszta", a seemingly endless plain, adjoins the lake. It is so beautiful with its shining reed, its lush vineyards, colorful meadows and light nights.

Graz, the capital of the federal province of Styria, has a Mediterranean touch, great cultural appeal and beautiful surroundings worth discovering. The Lippizan horses of the Spanish Riding School are bred at the stud farm in Piber in the vicinity of Graz.

Salzburg, the city of Mozart, should not be missing on any post-convention agenda. Walk down the Getreidegasse and discover the ambience of the genius.

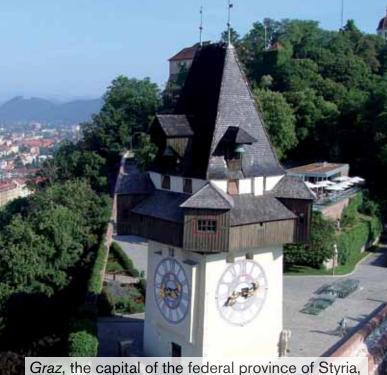
Budapest, the capital of Hungary and one of the jewels of the neighboring countries, is only 250 km from Vienna. Discover the land of csardas, goulash and local folk music.

Prague (350 km from Vienna) is the third city besides Budapest and Vienna within what is called the "Golden Triangle". This magnificent city along the river Vltava is well worth discovering.



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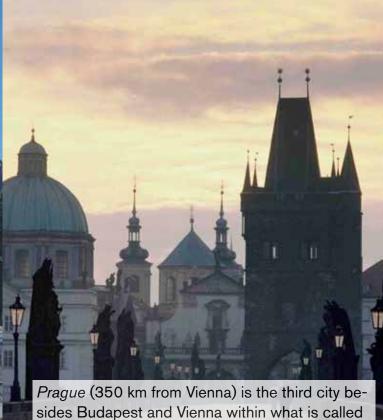


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# Pre- and Post-Convention Tours

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the "Golden Triangle". This magnificent city along

the river Moldau is well worth discovering.

# Visa Regulations

Who does not need a visa. Citizens of all countries of the European Union, Switzerland, Croatia, Israel, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, of most of the countries of North and South America, and some other countries do not need a visa, only a valid passport is required to enter Austria. In case of doubt please contact the Austrian Consulate or Embassy well in advance before departure.

Who needs a visa. Travellers requiring a visa can travel freely throughout the Schengen zone for three months with a Schengen visa issued by any Schengen country. Obtaining a visa entitling you to visit one Schengen country automatically entitles you to travel to and from all the other Schengen countries too. Further information about visa regulations and Schengen visas can be found on the Austrian Foreign Ministry homepage:

#### www.bmaa.gv.at

Current member countries of the Schengen treaty (in alphabetic order) are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

Entry Requirements. A detailed list with entry requirements for citizens of all countries who do need a visa including contact details of the respective department of the Austrian Foreign Ministry can be provided.



#### Vienna for guests with special needs

The Vienna City Administration continuously strives to offer a number of different services for people with special needs, ranging from accessible sidewalks to the special markings in underground stations for the visually impaired. The Vienna Tourist Board has undertaken a survey on the services provided for people with special needs. Detailed information can be found at http://www.wien.info/en/travel-info/accessible-vienna

## Vienna Airport / CAT City Airport Train

The Vienna airport and the airlines offer a special mobility service; the check-in counters are reachable at ground level or from the parking garage via elevators, the departure gates at the same level.

The City Airport Train operates between the railway station "Bahnhof Wien Mitte" in the city center and the Vienna International Airport "Wien Schwechat" and is completely barrier-free. There are no steps into the train and two wheelchair-spaces are available in every CAT train.

#### **Public Transport**

Vienna's subway system is well-equipped for guests with special needs. All of the stations have an elevator. 80% of all stations have "guiding strips" on the floor, showing the way to stairs, escalators and elevators.

"Low floor" buses are in use on all bus routes, however with many tram lines entering still has to be made via steps. But also here some routes are operated with low floor street cars. Displays at the streetcar stations have a blinking wheelchair symbol showing how many minutes are left until a "low floor" streetcar will depart.

Detailed information at www.wl-barrierefrei.at (presently only in German)

#### Hotels and Pensions

The hotels in Vienna have taken great efforts in offering guest rooms and public areas that fulfill special needs. A detailed list of all services offered by hotels in Vienna can be found on the Vienna Tourist Board's website.

#### Vienna's Sightseeing Attractions

There are more than 100 major museums and sights in Vienna and most of them are accessible for guests with special needs. Due to historical restrictions, barrier free access cannot always be guaranteed.

There are special guided city tours offered for guests with special needs.



