



Opening Ceremony in the Granarium Hall of Schlaining Castle

Academic Year 2012/13 Has Begun EPU Welcomes 30 New Students

The European Peace University in Stadtschlaining welcomed 30 new students from all over the world starting their MA study program in Peace and Conflict Studies in fall 2012.

The opening ceremony of the academic year 2012–2013 was held on 24 Sep 2012 in the Granarium of Schlaining Castle's conference centre by welcoming students from 21 countries of the world, including Afghanistan, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Croatia, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. All of the students not only have an excellent academic record but

also a strong background in peacebuilding or NGO work.

The ceremony was opened with a welcome message by rector Dr. Gerald Mader and an opening speech by program director Prof. Dr. Patricia Bauer.

The following orientation week introduced students to the city, the Peace Centre and the Peace Library of Stadtschlaining and the region of Burgenland, and offered overview lectures on the study program.

Thanks to the excellent organization by the EPU administration, the new class enjoyed a smooth and cheerful start at EPU. Students, faculty and staff of the EPU are looking forward to an exciting and successful new academic year at the European Peace University.



Dr. Gerald Mader, Rector of the European Peace University at the opening ceremony

**Next Movie:**

On 30 October 2012, 6:30 pm, HI,
Francis Ford Coppola's "Apocalypse Now"
introduced by Dr. Ronald Tuschi

New Film Colloquium "Violence and War"

The newly launched film colloquium at EPU will start on 30 October with Francis Ford Coppola's film analysis of the Vietnam war "Apocalypse Now".

The film colloquium intends to offer an alternative to the workaday academic discussion by opening the door for aesthetic and emotional perception and reflection on the EPU's central topics "War", "Violence" and "Peace". The colloquium is planned to take place every three weeks at evenings in Haus International.

Movies will be introduced by one of the EPU lecturers, who will also moderate the discussion following the film. The colloquium is an offer for EPU students and all others interested to address the problems of war and peace from the angle of the creative arts. In the current trimester, "Apocalypse Now" will be followed by two more movies: "Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb", and "No Man's Land".

In the next two terms four movie presentations are planned each term.

All interested EPU students and faculty are cordially invited to participate in these events.

EPU Lecture Series to Start in November

EPU will start a new interdisciplinary lecture series open to all students on 13 November 2012. The lectures, by EPU academic staff and selected guest lecturers, will give deeper insight into topics discussed at EPU. The series will start with two lectures on the United Nations Organization (UNO).

As the series continues, the crisis of the European Union (EU), concepts of political Utopia, and other research topics actively pursued at EPU will be presented.

Guest lecturers will be from the staff of international organizations or national institutions concerned with peace and conflict. Their lectures will focus on their practical work and insight as well as on the fields of activity and the politics of their respective organizations.

The lectures are intended to supply fresh perspectives and information as well as to familiarize students with potential employers or opportunities for internships, and to enrich the academic exchange at EPU.

The new EPU lecture series starts with an overview lecture on the United Nations Organization by Patricia Bauer on 13 November 2012, 7:00 pm, at Haus International.

It will be continued by a lecture and Q&A on "Working as an UN Diplomat – Tasks, Challenges and Experiences from Different Fields of UN Action" by Mr. Johannes Seybold from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna on 20 November 2012, 2:00 pm, at Haus International.

In December, lectures on the European Union and on concepts of political Utopias are scheduled.

**Next Lecture:**

"The United Nations Organization"
by Patricia Bauer, 13 November 2012,
7:00 pm, Haus International



moodle logo and screenshot of one of the EPU course pages

EPU Introduces moodle as e-Learning Platform

EPU is introducing moodle ("modular object-oriented dynamic learning environment") as its new e-learning platform.

Moodle is built around a social approach to education, emphasizing that learners (and not just teachers) can contribute to the educational experience.

Features of moodle include online course enrolment, calendars, news and announcements, blogs, discussion forums, wikis, moodle instant messages,

file downloads, assignment submissions, online quizzes, and course grade books.

Instructors will announce which features are to be used in their courses.

EPU moodle may be accessed by all students and faculty via <http://epu.ac.at> → Virtual Campus → EPU moodle. Students' usernames and passwords will be sent out shortly.

Moodle is intended to fully replace the existing EPU intranet. For the time being, however, both will be run in parallel, and course materials may also be accessed via the intranet until further notice. All other, new functions can of course be accessed via moodle only.

Stadtschlaining UNESCO Schoolchildren Meeting EPU Students



On the morning of 10 October 2012, EPU had a visit by the schoolchildren from the UNESCO elementary school in Stadtschlaining.

They visited Haus International for three hours and met a number of our students from the EPU.

It was a great time in a great spirit.

Special thanks to Adah, Ali, Ana, Dzhamilia, Meah and Pascal for the presentations of their countries, and to Astrid for the cookies she made for the kids.

It was a nice and valuable meeting for both students and schoolchildren: a fruitful form of cooperation between university and the community of Stadtschlaining!

Welcome Reception at the Concentrum in Stadtschlaining

At the beginning of the academic year, a traditional extracurricular program for the EPU students took place:

On 4 October 2012, the Schlaining **CONCENTRUM** – Forum for Political, Ethical, Cultural and Social Ecumenism – invited EPU students and faculty for the traditional welcome meeting and buffet dinner in their Community Room.

After the welcome address, the members of the Board of **CONCENTRUM** had a lively exchange with the new EPU students.



Mark Your Calendar

Excursion

- Excursion of the EPU class of 2012/2014 to the Burgenland (27 Oct 2012, starting at 8:30 am at Haus International)

MA Courses

(Venues: Haus International, unless indicated otherwise)

- “Forms of Conflict, Conflict Analysis and Working with Conflict” (Bert Preiss, University of Vienna and Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution, 29 Oct–1 Nov 2012)
- “Resource & Environmental Conflicts” (Elective Course, Hans-Günter Brauch, Free University of Berlin, Germany, 5–7 Nov 2012)
- “Transnational Terrorism” (Elective Course, Ekaterina Stepanova, Institute of the World Economy and International Relations, Moscow, Russia, 7–9 Nov 2012)
- “Conflicts in the Middle East” (Elective Course, Werner Ruf, University of Kassel, Germany, 12–16 Nov 2012)
- “Conflicts in Latin America and the Caribbean” (Elective Course, Peter Stania, International Institute for Peace, Vienna, 12–16 Nov 2012)
- “Theory and Practice of Research Methodology” (Bertold Schweitzer, EPU, 19–23 Nov 2012)
- “Quantitative Social Research” (Bertold Schweitzer, EPU, 26–30 Nov 2012)



Excursions to international organizations are an important part of the EPU study programs. This picture shows EPU students at the United Nations Office at Vienna in April 2012.

Workshop

- “Applied Intercultural Learning Workshop” (Klaus Pahr, Independent Trainer, Oberschützen, Austria, 1–2 Nov 2012, Haus International)

EPU Lecture Series

- “The United Nations Organization” (Patricia Bauer, EPU, 13 November 2012, 7:00 pm, Haus International)
- “Working as an UN Diplomat – Tasks, Challenges and Experiences from Different Fields of UN Action” (Lecture and Q&A, Johannes C. Seybold, International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, 20 November 2012, 2:00 pm, Haus International)

- “From Plato to NATO: Political and Literary Utopias” (László Farkas, EPU, December, date t.b.a.)

Film Colloquium

- “Apocalypse Now”, introduced by Ronald Tuschl (30 Oct 2012, 6:30 pm, Haus International)
- “Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb”, introduced by Bertold Schweitzer (22 Nov 2012, 7:00 pm, Haus International)
- “No Man’s Land”, introduced by Patricia Bauer (December, date t.b.a.)



Project work at EPU

Interactive lectures, intense discussions, group work, renowned instructors from all over the world, and an excellent student-instructor ratio are some of the hallmarks of EPU

Interested in Studying at EPU? Apply for Fall 2013!

Starting in Autumn 2013, the European Peace University will be offering two additional MA programs for a total of three:

- Peace & Conflict Studies
- European Peace & Security Studies
- Peacebuilding

“European Peace and Security Studies” focuses on the EU system and Europe’s responsibility for global peace.

“Peacebuilding” connects academic peace studies with the professional and personal challenges peacebuilders are

facing in the field.

More details about all of EPU’s MA programs may be found at <http://epu.ac.at/study/>.

Applications for fall 2013 in all three MA programs are open now!

We are looking forward to hearing from you and are happy to answer any questions you may have. Please contact Ms Anita Flasch at epu@epu.ac.at.

In addition, applying for the EPU certificate program – i.e., studying selected terms or modules of any of the EPU programs – is possible any time. For term dates please visit our academic calendar at <http://epu.ac.at/admission/academic-calendar.html>.