

club

SUMMER EDITION 2018

danews



The DA People Issue



Get to know our students, alumni and staff and learn how to connect via our new online networking platform



Dear Alumnae,
Dear Alumni,

There are changes everywhere we look. As Austria is about to take over the helm of the European Union for the third time since joining in 1995, once seemingly undefeatable teams struggle at the 2018 FIFA World Cup – and 110 young professionals are starting the next chapter of their lives by graduating from the Vienna School of International Studies and joining our alumni network.

And the latter has just become even more convenient. With the launch of our new networking platform (see page 3), you are very welcome to stay connected anytime and anywhere.

Speaking of our network, this issue of the completely redesigned ClubDA News is dedicated to the DA's most precious assets. On pages 4 to 11 we introduce alumni, new staff members and students – five of them award-ees of the two alumni-funded ClubDA and Alumni Hall of Fame Scholarships.

In addition, we look back at the first year of the new **da.link career services** programme (pages 12-13) as well as at no less than 22 alumni events organised all around the world by the DA, ClubDA and our local chapters over the past six months (pages 14-15).

Now we are looking forward to a joyful, relaxing and memorable summer; an exciting second half of the World Cup; and a successful and flawless EU Presidency, managed in part by more than 1,500 Austrian public officials who attended comprehensive preparation courses at the DA this past year.

Finally, let me congratulate our new DA graduates on the triumphant completion of their studies at the Academy and wish all of you a delightful summer.

Yours,



Oliver Kitz
ClubDA President

Inside this Issue

DA/ClubDA Networking 2.0 <i>(Re-)Connect with fellow alumni and students and take advantage of many new features!</i>	3	Now and then ... <i>Read some of the portraits of and interviews with students and alumni which we posted recently</i>	10
ClubDA Scholarships 2017-18 <i>Get to know our four scholarship winners</i>	4	Stronger together <i>Look back at the first year of da.link career services</i>	12
Alumni Hall of Fame Scholarship 2017-18 <i>The fifth Hall of Fame Scholarship awardee in portrait</i>	8	Recent alumni meetings <i>See which events DA, ClubDA and its local chapters organised over the past six months</i>	14
New faces at the DA <i>Meet Julia Németh and Henry Ngo-Sytchev</i>	9	Event calendar / Imprint	16


DA/ClubDA Networking 2.0

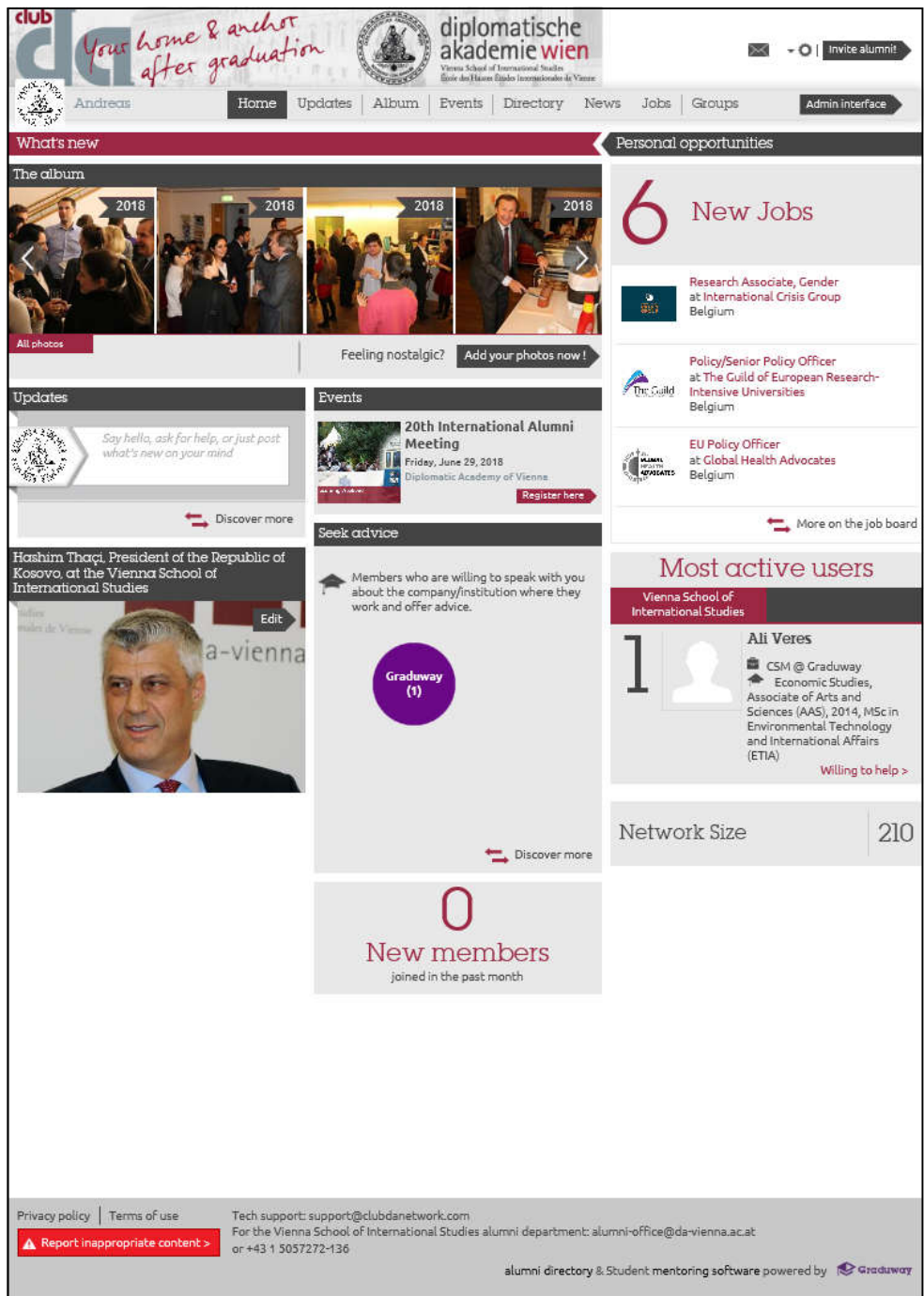
(Re-)Connect with fellow alumni and students and take advantage of many new features!

"DA Wien Connect" is the latest addition to the DA's broad online portfolio. Besides the public website www.da-vienna.ac.at, the **da.link career portal** (see pages 12-13), ClubDA's website and our social networks (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter), DA Wien Connect will treat students and active ClubDA members to a whole new networking experience wherever they are and whenever they want. The platform – designed like a social network and tailor-made for the DA community – is available on desktop PCs as well as any mobile device. Just go to <https://connect.da-vienna.ac.at>, log in with your DA e-mail address, Facebook or LinkedIn account and stay connected!

First and foremost, the new networking platform comes with a directory of all registered users and many ways to stay in touch, including general and group-related news feeds as well as a state-of-the-art messaging tool.

Further services are:

- ⇒ **Your profile:** Keep your profile up to date and let your fellow students and alumni know where you are and what you're doing.
- ⇒ **Directory:** Find and (re-)connect with (former) colleagues.
- ⇒ **Groups:** Join one of ClubDA's twenty local chapters, your peers in the soon-to-come "Class of ..." groups or create your own group.
- ⇒ **Jobs:** Browse through current vacancies and receive e-mail reminders when new jobs are available.
- ⇒ **Album:** See photos of the latest DA/ClubDA activities or add your own memories.
- ⇒ **Events:** Check out a list of upcoming local chapter gatherings as well as select public DA events. Sign up and join the conversation! 



The screenshot shows the DA/ClubDA Networking 2.0 website interface. The header includes the DA logo and navigation links: Home, Updates, Album, Events, Directory, News, Jobs, Groups, and Admin interface. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- What's new:** A section titled "The album" showing a grid of photos from 2018. Below it, there's a "Feelings nostalgic? Add your photos now!" button.
- Personal opportunities:** A section titled "6 New Jobs" with a list of job openings, including "Research Associate, Gender at International Crisis Group Belgium", "Policy/Senior Policy Officer at The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities Belgium", and "EU Policy Officer at Global Health Advocates Belgium".
- Updates:** A section with a message box that says "Say hello, ask for help, or just post what's new on your mind" and a "Discover more" button.
- Events:** A section titled "20th International Alumni Meeting" for Friday, June 29, 2018, at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, with a "Register here" button.
- Seek advice:** A section titled "Members who are willing to speak with you about the company/institution where they work and offer advice." It features a "Graduway (1)" button and a "Discover more" button.
- Most active users:** A section titled "Vienna School of International Studies" with a profile for "Ali Veres" (CSM @ Graduway, Economic Studies, Associate of Arts and Sciences (AAS), 2014, MSc in Environmental Technology and International Affairs (ETIA)) and a "Willing to help >" button.
- Network Size:** A section showing "210" members.
- New members:** A section showing "0 New members joined in the past month".

The footer contains a "Report inappropriate content" button, privacy policy, terms of use, and contact information: Tech support: support@clubdanetwork.com, For the Vienna School of International Studies alumni department: alumni-office@da-vienna.ac.at or +43 1 5057272-136. It also mentions "alumni directory & Student mentoring software powered by Graduway".

Introducing Roman-Koska Aslan

MAIS student and 2017-18 ClubDA Scholarship awardee

My name is Roman-Koska Aslan, I am 26 years old and I am from Bremen, Germany. I came to Vienna almost 6 years ago to take up my undergraduate studies in political science and oriental studies at the University of Vienna. I have been enrolled in the MAIS programme at the DA since last year. Last December I was granted a ClubDA Scholarship.

What brought you to the DA and why have you chosen MAIS?

As a student of political science in Vienna, I came across the DA as the leading educational institution in Austria when it comes to international studies very early on. The many events and the international reputation made it easy for me to relate to the DA and gain some insights. After having finished my undergraduate studies, I wanted to study fields I hadn't yet covered and at the same time be able to continue my academic career on my previous fields of study. The MAIS programme was the perfect fit in order to combine all these elements.

What impact did the ClubDA Scholarship have on your first academic year?

There are two aspects which I would like to mention. Firstly, this significant amount of money obviously takes a huge financial burden from the shoulders of those students receiving it. Even right after the start of the first academic year, the second year doesn't seem very far away, and you therefore have to figure out how to shoulder the tuition fees of the upcoming academic year. The scholarship buffers this burden and allows you to fully concentrate on your academic studies. Secondly, the fact that the scholarship is provided by the contributions of DA alumni creates a bond between current and previous DA students and makes you feel part of a big family.

What was your personal highlight of the first academic year?

My highlights were the many sport activities at the DA and ultimately the football tournament which we managed to win.

How do you think you can contribute to changing the world after finishing your studies?

Due to the broad range of skills and knowledge we are receiving during our studies at the DA, I am sure we will be able to contribute to changing the world and make it a better place since we are being taught to always see and keep in mind the big picture.


If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

I would probably choose being able to swim and dive like a fish since that is not exactly one of my strengths right now as a human.

Who are the people you would like to meet and work with in the future?

Generally, I would like to meet and work with people that share my vision about what our world should ideally be like and are motivated to contribute to achieving this goal the way that I am.

How and in which form would you want to be involved with DA's alumni network?

I would really love to keep in touch with the DA family and my colleagues after finishing my studies and ultimately be able to return the favour I have received this academic year by supporting future generations of DA students. 



Introducing Olivia Klemmer

2017–18 ClubDA Scholarship awardee and Student Representative on ClubDA's 2018–19 board

What brought you to the DA, why did you choose ETIA? Was there a pivotal moment which made you apply for that particular programme?

The ETIA programme initially attracted my attention because I felt that the skills I would acquire there would perfectly complement the technical acumen I developed over the course of my Master's in technical physics. Global problems require global solutions, but I often see that the appropriate technological solutions are overlooked due to a failure to accurately communicate ideas. In attending the ETIA programme, I wish to gain further insight into developing the relevant communication and to assess ways to implement this on a global, as well as national, level.

What impact did the scholarship have on your first academic year?

Since I moved to Vienna, I had numerous moving expenses. The ClubDA scholarship allowed me to focus on my studies and provided me with time in order to raise the necessary funds required. As such, it was deeply valuable in allowing me to develop networks like those with ClubDA.

What was your personal highlight of the first year at the DA?

It's hard to pinpoint one defining moment over the course of such a busy year. Meeting so many great people from diverse backgrounds has proved to be an immensely enriching and mutually beneficial experience. Both within the classrooms as well as outside of them, we have grown close and created deep friendships. Within the year, the Xmas extravaganza stands out as a crucial moment in the development of these relationships. The good spirit, music and familiarity of that experience is something that I will never forget, and I'm sure that we will share many more experiences like it.

Do you think that you can contribute to changing the world through your work? How do you see yourself accomplishing this?

As mentioned before, I previously completed a Master's degree in technical physics. Due to the specific language employed by technical experts, solutions are often miscommunicated, and problems tend to be misrepresented. I want to bridge the gap between technical experts and the public sphere by using my quantitative skills in combination with the qualitative ones gained through ETIA in an effort to resolve environmental issues. On a personal level, I derive a lot of my motivation and discipline from a desire to improve the world that we share.

If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

The ability to make people see the repercussions of their actions.

Are you already involved with DA's alumni network or are you planning to do so in the future?

I applied for the position of ClubDA Student Representative and will hopefully be functional in this role over the coming year. My aim is to improve the quality of communication between students and alumni as well as the provision of career opportunities post-graduation. I have developed a keen interest in establishing and ensuring successful communication networks over the course of my academic and professional development. I see the position of the ClubDA Student Representative as a bridge between former and present students of the Academy, and would be very happy to promote dialogue between them. Increasing the connection between groups creates opportunities on both sides and, moreover, can result in long-lasting personal and professional connections for all. I highly welcome the opportunity to continue the successful representation of the students of the Academy in its alumni association ClubDA. 



Foto: DA/Peter Lechner

Introducing Doriana Leo

DLG student and 2017-18 ClubDA Scholarship awardee

What brought you to the DA, why have you chosen DLG? Was there a pivotal moment which made you apply for that particular programme?

The reason for this choice goes back some years to my one-year Erasmus programme at Innsbruck University, where I was selected to participate in the Euregio Academy, a series of seminars about the Euro-region of Tyrol, South-Tyrol and Trentino (2015). Meeting professors and scholars allowed me to improve my knowledge and gain broader insight in International Relations, Politics and Economics, as the very aspects of the above-mentioned region and the EU were analysed. While working closely with one of the professors, he suggested that I should continue my studies at the DA as he considered that the enthusiasm I showed on those occasions and my language skills were a good starting point for this further achievement.

After attending the Open Day last November, I thought the programme was made-to-measure for my personality, my engagement and enthusiasm, which I can entirely confirm *a posteriori*.

What impact did the scholarship have on your first academic year?

I would describe the impact of this scholarship as significantly helpful as well as incredibly meaningful to me. Receiving such financial help from ClubDA enabled me to develop some skills attending specialised courses.

It has been an important personal reward for all the efforts of the past few years and a strong sign that hard work does indeed pay off and that meritocracy is a relevant criteria for our institution.

What was your personal highlight of the first year at the DA?

The multicultural environment which characterises the whole institution - in the administration, academic staff and student body - is extremely rich and motivating. The multi- and interdisciplinary nature of the Diplomlehrgang has been of high importance for me as well as the proof of what a good choice I made in applying here.


Do you think that you can contribute to changing the world through your work? How do you see yourself accomplishing this?

I try to do my best to influence my "microcosm" and really hope that I can reach ever more people. I am very grateful for the work I am doing because I find it very useful and the projects we are implementing are practically tangible in the countries and on the populations concerned.

If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

Equity. Equity is very important to me, and I hope it will become ever more central in all different kinds of policies on all levels. Not that equality and fairness are less important, on the contrary, but I believe that trying to understand and to give people what they need to enjoy full, healthy lives should be, in my humble opinion, at the core of everybody's interest.

Who are the people you would like to meet or work with in the future?

I had the immense opportunity of meeting the UN Secretary General. I dream of meeting Malala Yousafzai, because I am convinced that every change in society must and will come from a change in education. She is a unique ambassador of the importance of education in our world. 



Introducing Alexandra Siobhan Quinn

MAIS student and 2017-18 ClubDA Scholarship awardee

My name is Alexandra Quinn and I am a student in the MAIS programme. I am Australian, British, and American; I spent the first twelve years of my life in Brisbane, Australia before moving to Virginia, USA where I completed both high school and college. I came straight to the Academy after receiving my Bachelors' in Political Science and History from the College of William and Mary.

What brought you to the DA?

I have wanted to attend the DA since I was 15, when I first learnt about the school from my Austrian host sister. Having studied both political science and history for my undergraduate degree, the MAIS programme was right up my alley in terms of areas of focus and I was excited by the opportunity to live and study in another country, this time one that wasn't English-speaking.

What impact has the scholarship had?

This scholarship allowed me to take advantage of the opportunities provided outside of class time where I otherwise would have had to work to support myself in Vienna.

It enabled me to attend after hours talks and events as well as to sign up for the Bulgaria study trip, although in the end I was unfortunately unable to attend due to illness.

What was your personal highlight of the first year at the DA?

What I have enjoyed most about the DA during my first year are the people I met, both students and professors. Having such a multicultural and multilingual learning environment has been an incredibly fun and interesting experience. I also managed to achieve an A- in monetary theory even though economics is not my strong suit, a personal academic accomplishment.

If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

If I could have one superpower it would be the ability to travel through time. I really enjoy history and would want to be able to go back and truly experience the time periods I'm learning about and am interested in.


Do you think you can contribute to changing the world through your work and how?

Yes. Although I have not yet decided the direction I want to take with my career, I one day want to be able to leave my mark on the world.

Who are the people you would like to meet or work with in the future?

I would want to meet Angela Merkel. She has successfully led one of the world's most important countries for over a decade and has assumed a prominent role both in the EU and on the global stage, especially in the wake of Brexit and the election of President Trump. She is easily one of the most powerful women in the world and a personal inspiration.

How would you want to be involved with the DA's alumni network?

I want to learn from alumni and their experiences in order to one day do the same for future DA students, and especially to be able to help those in the same position I was in. 



Introducing Justina Rauch

ETIA student and 2017–18 Alumni Hall of Fame Scholarship awardee

Exactly 100 DLG and MAIS alumni as well as former participants in the DA's Executive Programmes have been inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame since 2010. Back then, Ambassador Hans Winkler, DA director and alumnus, initiated the Hall of Fame project to honour the DA's most distinguished alumni and to show students what they, too, can achieve with excellent education and hard work.

In 2017, the DA asked its Hall-of-Famers for the fifth time to support the "Alumni Hall of Fame Scholarships" programme which is dedicated to enabling financially disadvantaged students to benefit from DA's excellent academic programmes like so many did in the past.

We are now happy to present Justina Rauch, ETIA student and this year's Alumni Hall of Fame Scholarship awardee.

My name is Justina and I was born in Tyrol, where I spent most of my childhood. As a teenager, I was able to travel around the world a lot:

- ⇒ At the age of 14, I spent the summer months staying with a Jewish family in New Jersey.
- ⇒ At 15, I attended a Catholic Boarding School in England for a term.
- ⇒ At 16, I spent half a year abroad in New Zealand and after school I decided to volunteer for a social project in Bulgaria.

All these different experiences awakened my desire to understand how political systems and societies developed and became what they are today. I was convinced that knowing the past would help me to understand the present. I chose to study history.

At the end of my Master's degree at the School of Oriental and African Studies, I decided to extend my education by moving away from the humanities and towards science. The Environmental Technology and International Affairs programme at the DA and the TU was the perfect choice for me. ETIA helped me to better understand the social, economical and environmental challenges we are facing today.

For the next years and decades to come, I hope to not only grasp the complexities we live in, but to take part in shaping a more sustainable and equal future for all.

I want to thank the DA alumni community, not only for supporting us students and for providing the possibility for scholarships, but for having made the DA the place it is today. 🙏



Foto: DA/Ernst Weingartner

New faces at the DA

Meet Julia Németh and Henry Ngo-Sytchev, the latest additions to our Executive Programmes and Academic Department teams

Julia Németh

Executive Programmes Department

Julia Németh has not been with us for long, but she has got stuck into the projects, events and innovations the Vienna School of International Studies' team is organising. "Even though I have only been here for a few months, I have already been on my first business trip!" Julia and a colleague went to Brussels with 50 apprentices, enabling the youngsters to get to grips with the European Union on a whole new level. "Seeing the teenagers engage with the sort of people you usually see discussing EU policy on the news was really inspiring."

Her interests lie not only in study trips, but in courses for foreign diplomats, too. "We prepared a course for young diplomats from Ukraine. It was a very impressive seminar to organise!"

Julia studied Political Science in Hungary and Vienna, with a focus on West Africa. She applied what she learnt practically at the Kofi Annan Training Center in Ghana. Coming back to the city where she completed her Master's degree was a stroke of fate. Rather unusually – via a Facebook


post – Julia found out about the job and made her way to the Academy, where she now manages projects to spread the art of diplomacy. 



Foto: DA/Jan Claudius Bujak

Henry Ngo-Sytchev

Academic Department


The Vienna School of International Studies is known for its international student body and for being a home to people from all over the world, with different cultures, backgrounds,



Foto: privat

and languages. But it's not just the students who are so diverse: since Henry Ngo-Sytchev joined the team, students can knock on his office door and receive advice in a variety of languages!

But for the Belgian, his multilingualism wasn't enough, so he chose to apply for a job which would expose him to the German language, too. The 28-year-old found his way to the Academy after identifying strongly with the job description: "When I read it, it was like reading about me...well, except for my C1 level in German." Henry laughs, adding, "this job is about being international, it is related to my studies, and you need to be a multi-tasking polyglot. All these characteristics correspond to me!"

Henry gained quite a bit of experience as an administrative assistant at his own alma mater in Belgium. "But I like the small team here, because I have more to do and can learn faster. I am able to implement my own ideas." And he can probably explain them to anyone in French, Russian, English and German! 

Now and then ...

Meet two of our current graduates and three of their predecessors and learn more about our students' and alumni's backgrounds, experiences and dreams. Over the course of the academic year, we regularly post more portraits on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Ildar Daminov

21st MAIS Programme (2016-18)

From Vienna to Seoul: Ildar was one of two students who spent an exchange term at Korea University's Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS).

The MAIS-II graduate likes that "the DA creates a rather useful social network that hugely benefits one in the future. Knowing the right people is essential for your career and personal development today."


Asked about his experience abroad, he can only tell positive things: "To keep it short, I do really like it here. It is less stressful than my first year since I have to focus on advancing my Korean and collecting information for the master's thesis only. One experiences a new mentality; one discovers a very hospitable culture when coming to Seoul. South Korea is a totally fascinating experience for everybody who has never visited East Asia before. I highly encourage all the DA students interested in the region to apply for the KUGSIS exchange programme." 



Foto: privat

Lukas Ortner

10th ETIA Programme (2016-18)

We are already preparing our tissues, as the Tyrolean is currently finishing his Master thesis on e-mobility for public transport busses and will graduate on 2 July. As sad as it is to let him go, we know he will end up 100 percent committed to contribute to making the world a cooler place (not only from a climate aspect) by implementing innovative infrastructure, energy and transportation systems to reach the climate goals that we are currently so far away from achieving.


Yet, our very own environmentalist Robin Hood has a plan B in case he can't save the world in one day: "I will open a gelateria, because everybody likes ice cream and espresso." 



Foto: privat

Lisa Butzenlechner*7th ETIA Programme (2013-15)*

After passing the A-Préalable and joining the BMEIA in September 2017, I am now in training for the diplomatic service. That means, I change departments and responsibilities regularly in order to gain the broadest possible insight into the work of the diplomatic service. I am currently working in the Department for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), where I am, among other tasks, involved in the preparation of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) meetings. At the same time, I am getting ready for my first assignment in Qatar, where I will be working at the Austrian Embassy in Doha during the Austrian Presidency.

I decided to enrol in ETIA after completing my two Bachelor degrees, as I wanted to combine my interests in international relations with environmental and technological issues. The case in point is my master's thesis, in which I compared agricultural development across Latin America in a statistical analysis after having spent three months in Mexico. At the end of my studies, I was awarded the ARA Best Study Award, which is why I would like to express special thanks to the ARA and CEO Dr. Scharff for the support of the ETIA study programme.

Even though I did not land directly in the environmental / technology field, the knowledge I gained during the


ETIA course provides a very important knowledge base for my current work. 



Foto: privat

Max Alberto Diener Sala*28th Diploma Programme (1991-93)*

What are your current duties?

I serve as Fiscal Attorney, an Undersecretary position in the Ministry of Finance of the Mexican Federal Government. My role includes representing the fiscal interests of the Federation before the courts; providing legal advice for any bill in tax or financial matters; participating in the negotiations of the annual economic packages; representing the Ministry before international organisations; and I am also empowered to investigate and report crimes in tax matters committed in the finance sector.

Which skills are the most important that you developed at the Academy?

During my stay in Austria I discovered that one of the great tools I had is that I was able to speak four languages, which greatly facilitated my studies and offered me the opportunity to interact more closely with other students. I cannot stop pondering the before and after of having studied in Austria. I must admit that a lot of my achievements are thanks to the tools that were provided to me at the Academy, especially regarding the exercise of diplomacy.

Which career advice would you give students for their future?


You are sensitive to the importance of international issues and globalisation. I invite you to have an open mind, not only to what we want as citizens, but to what we aspire as inhabitants of our world. 



Foto: privat

Anna Maria Trofaier*2nd ETIA Programme (2008-10)*

What are your current duties?

Having been a research fellow with the European Space Agency a couple of years ago, I recently returned to work for their Climate Office. I'm a cryosphere scientist: that is, I am interested in monitoring the dynamics and changes in distribution of ice and snow on Earth from space. My role is to manage several projects within our Climate Change Initiative programme.

Were you always interested in ESA?

I have always been interested in space: in fact, my first degree was in astrophysics. The reason I chose to enrol in the ETIA Programme was that after studying the driving forces of the universe, I felt it was timely to gain a better understanding of how

our own world and its society worked. At that stage I had not yet decided what career path to take but knew I needed to widen my rather narrowly focused expertise.

Were you able to apply any of the knowledge and skills acquired during your ETIA studies to your current job?


I have always felt at home at ESA, not least because I was initiated into the workings of international organisations during my time at the Academy. Climate science demands international cooperation. Sometimes the best scientists are those who engage with the international community to ensure research does not remain in a vacuum but leads to actions. 



Foto: privat



The full portraits and interviews are available at <https://bit.ly/2MNsV1C>.

Stronger together

We took an already well-established career services programme, merged it with an engaged alumni community and created our new **da.link career services**. Here is a look back at the first year and a glimpse of what's coming up.

It takes many steps to develop one's career. The **da.link career services** team supports students and alumni on their journeys to their "dream jobs".

To this end, the Vienna School of International Studies underwent some major organisational changes over the past year, first merging its Career Services with the Alumni and Administrative Office and later establishing the new Development Department which is comprised of alumni and career services, communication, fundraising and IT services.

da.link, which is jointly organised by the DA and its alumni association ClubDA, is tailored to our students' and alumni's individual needs and consists of:

da.link career counselling

Individual counselling sessions have always been and still are at the core of DA's career services. Together we analyse our students' interests in order to facilitate their job search in a goal-oriented way, put together convincing applications, develop a personal strategy for acquiring and improving individual skills, and research successful alumni careers.

da.link career day

Networking with potential employers and finding out about key assets and expectations

On the initiative of ClubDA, CEOs, department heads and high-ranking HR managers from highly renowned international organisations, the public sector, NGOs, advocacy organisations and private business have been invited annually since 2013.

During the course of this 'professional speed dating', the representatives sit down and talk with DA students about their career plans, give advice, share their experience and offer jobs, internships, follow-up meetings, etc.

On 13 March 2018, we had the pleasure of welcoming representatives of 19 companies and organisations and of organising no less than 487 one-to-one talks with our students.

The next **da.link career day** will take place on 13 March 2019.





Foto: DA/Daniel Novotny

da.link career portal

Featuring job vacancies, internships, upcoming talks, seminars and much more

One of the first tasks in implementing the **da.link** programme was to consolidate the various career services pages on the DA's public website, its intranet for students, as well as Club-DA's portal. The new website provides additional information about the programme (information on and registration for the career day, talks and seminars), a list of job vacancies and open internship positions, useful web links and more resources.



Visit us at

<http://career.da-vienna.ac.at>

da.link career skills

Equipping students with a broad variety of skills necessary for today's job market

To develop key professional and personal competences, the DA organises specialised and practice-oriented skills workshops on academic and journalistic writing; rhetoric and presentation techniques; international negotiations; team management; IT skills; as well as simulations of job interviews or press conferences.

In addition, training courses on crisis management, event management, public diplomacy, social media and a preparation course for competitions organised by the EU's Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) are offered.

Participation in all **da.link career skills** seminars and workshops is included in our students' tuition fees.

During the 2018-19 academic year, two skills weeks will give us the opportunity to arrange even more seminars and workshops tailored to our students' needs. In December we will focus on applications and job interviews, in April on other above-mentioned competences.

da.link career talks

Inviting alumni and HR professionals who share their experiences in different fields

Targeted events for career planning in the form of workshops, lectures, presentations and discussions allow students to make direct contact with leading representatives from the worlds of diplomacy, politics, business, culture, international organisations and NGOs.

In this regard, the DA draws on the large network of DA alumni. Formal and informal meetings with alumni working in the international organisations located in Vienna (UN, OSCE, IAEA, CTBTO etc.), in EU institutions or in international enterprises, banks or consultancy firms are an integral part of **da.link career talks**.

During the 2017-18 academic year, 24 career talks were organised.

Next year, a series of talks by representatives from the private sector as well as international organisations during the first two trimesters will be combined with lunch roundtables on certain professional fields in the spring of 2019. 

Recent alumni meetings

The Diplomatic Akademie Wien and ClubDA would like to thank all chapter presidents, the Diplomatic Academy Students Initiative (DASI) and all other alumni, students and partners who made the following events possible.

Alumni meet students in Brussels

19 December 2018

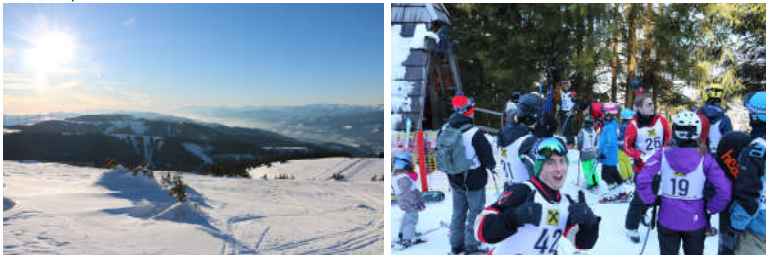
On the occasion of the annual study trip of first-year students to Brussels, ClubDA's local chapter organised an informal gathering of students and alumni at Moeder Lambic Fontainas.

16th DA Ski and Snowboard Championships

27 January 2018

15 alumni, students and staff joined colleagues from the Austrian Foreign Ministry and members of Club Diplomatie & Wirtschaft for a memorable day at Stuhleck. And the trophy for the fastest time of the day went to ... the DA!

Fotos: DA/Andreas Ehrmann



Alumni Meeting at the FIS World Cup in Bansko

27 January 2018

Meet & Greet am Neujahrs-Àpèro von AdvantageAustria

10 February 2018

Curling and Skating at Wiener Eistraum

26 February 2018

Freezing temperatures (below -10°C) greeted participants at the seventh ClubDA curling event which was again supported by the stadt wien marketing gmbh.

Foto: Jürgen Angleitner



Fondue in Berlin

28 February 2018

3rd Alumni-Stammtisch in Brussels

5 March 2018

12th Alumni Hall of Fame Talk

5 March 2018

170 guests gathered at the DA for a panel discussion on "Transatlantische Beziehungen - Wie selbstständig kann Europa sein?" with Wendelin Ettmayer (DA alumnus and former Austrian ambassador and Member of Parliament), Eva Nowotny (former Austrian ambassador in Paris, London and Washington, DC) and Donald Stoker (Distinguished Diplomatic Academy-Fulbright Professor of Political Science 2018).

da.link career day 2018

13 March 2018

For more information see the article on page 12.

Frauen im Gespräch: Pamela Rendi-Wagner

20 March 2018

Pamela Rendi-Wagner, Member of the Austrian Parliament and former Federal Minister of Health and Women, was the seventh guest of ClubDA's "Frauen im Gespräch" event series which we started in 2014. ClubDA Vice President Lucia Kronsteiner asked our guest about her successful and most interesting career, her political and private lives.



Foto: DA/Andreas Ehrmann

Alumni meet students in Astana*2 April 2018*

30 alumni, students and colleagues from the Institute of Diplomacy at Kazakhstan's Academy of Public Administration followed the invitation by



Foto: DA/Nadja Wozonig

the Austrian ambassador in Astana and former DA deputy director, Gerhard Sailler, on the occasion of the first optional study trip to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Reception for DA alumni in New York*4 April 2018***Alumni meet students in Sofia***4 April 2018***Kyiv Chapter Inaugural Meeting***4 April 2018*

DA alumni in Kyiv took the opportunity of the annual study trip to Ukraine to organise the inaugural meeting of ClubDA's 20th local chapter.



Foto: Miladin Bogetic

6th Alumni-Stammtisch in Vienna*19 April 2018*

Ambassador Bernhard Wrabetz, former Austrian ambassador to Portugal and India and Foreign Policy Advisor to the Federal Chancellor, delivered the keynote at the sixth Stammtisch in Vienna.

Vortrag mit Dinner aus der Küche Montenegros*26 April 2018*

After a keynote on Montenegro's path to the EU by DA alumnus Ambassador Ranko Vujačić, the group enjoyed highlights



Foto: Leoni Wolf

of the Montenegrin cuisine.

4th Alumni-Stammtisch in Brussels*15 May 2018***11th ClubDA Outdoor Weekend: Donauradweg***31 May-2 June 2018*

Since 2010, ClubDA's Vienna Chapter has been organising annual hiking or biking trips to scenic regions of eastern Austria. This year, we finally went a little further to Upper Austria and crossed the province from west to east along the Danube in three days. On Thursday, 31 May, we started our Donauradweg tour at the Austrian-German border in Passau and went via Obermühl, Schlögen, Aschach and Linz to the border of Upper and Lower Austria at Enns.



Fotos: DA/Andreas Ehrmann

Alumni Meeting in Kyiv*7 June 2018***Alumni Meeting in Zurich***12 June 2018***Alumni Meeting in Bern***22 June 2018***Austrian-Canadian Summer Fest***28 June 2018*

Please visit <https://club.da-vienna.ac.at> to see additional photos of recent meetings and find out more about upcoming events.

On the calendar ...



- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 29-30 June 2018 | 20th International Alumni Meeting
29 June: ClubDA General Assembly, DA Sommerfest
30 June: Excursion to Baden bei Wien |
| 9 July 2018 | 5th Alumni-Stammtisch in Brussels |
| 26 July 2018 | 7th Alumni-Stammtisch in Vienna
with a keynote address by Richard Grieveson
Location: Ufertaverne, 1220 Wien |
| August 2018 | 10th Vienna Summer Meeting
This year we will be celebrating the 10 th anniversary of the inaugural meeting of ClubDA's Vienna Chapter. |
| September 2018 | Alumni Meeting with Ambassador Brix in New York (tbc) |
| 22 September 2018 | Sekt & Cakes Brunch in Berlin
Location: Berlin-Weißensee |
| October 2018 | Alumni Meeting in Istanbul (tbc) |
| November 2018 | Thanksgiving Dinner in Berlin (tbc) |
| December 2018 | 10th St. Nicholas Party & Meet and Greet
More information will be announced soon. |

For exact dates and additional events please check out our online event calendar at <https://club.da-vienna.ac.at/Events> or log in to our new networking platform at <http://connect.da-vienna.ac.at>.

Imprint

- Publisher:** Club der Absolventinnen und Absolventen der Diplomatischen Akademie Wien (ClubDA, ZVR: 737329369)
Oliver Kitz, Präsident
Favoritenstraße 15a, 1040 Wien, Österreich
- Editor-in-chief:** Andreas Ehrmann
- Editorial team:** Katharina Dück, Marie-Theres Engelmayer, Elizabeth English, Olivia Klemmer
- Design:** Andreas Ehrmann

All pictures and articles are copyrighted to their respective owners and contributed to ClubDA for non-commercial use. Opinions and views voiced herein are not and should not be read as the views of ClubDA.