

club danews

18th International Alumni Meeting



DA LINK

ClubDA
Scholarships 2015-16



club danews

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EDITORIAL



Dear fellow Alumnae and Alumni,

What a disappointment – Great Britain is leaving the EU!

Do all the British people want this?

No, there is obviously a deep rift between older (out) and younger (in), city (in) and country dwellers (out), between higher educated (in) and less educated (out) ...

A „What have we done?“ outcry sounds across the country; a “stolen future” is claimed by the young who fear for their European job opportunities, scholarships and access to European projects.

Some speak of a final stink bomb thrown by the privileged Baby Boomers on their way into retirement, fouling up the atmosphere for the hard working Generation Y.

Brexit – a chain reaction of misunderstandings, cheap patriotism, political incompetence and steered misinformation employed to drown all achievements of the EU in vicious polemics. This vote will change Britain, will affect Europe and will foster economic and political egotism in our Union.

Despite this turmoil, the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, our alma mater, will remain a safe haven for tolerance and cooperation beyond borders.

ClubDA contributed its part by granting two scholarships to two talented young women: Sarah Baghdady of the 9th ETIA Programme and Aleksandra Wichrowska of the 20th MAIS Programme.

We will keep up our career platform DA LINK in March 2017!

And here is a heartfelt request to all of you: Please contribute to the success of this career speed-dating and name and approach a candidate who may be a potential employer or a coach for our young alumni to be.

Finally it is my privilege to thank Wolfgang Dreusch (DLG 20), our energetic president of the Berlin Chapter, who for so many years safely steered the ClubDA “Riverboat” on the Spree river. Thank you, Wolfgang, for all your work and all your activities that were a good example for a harmonious chapter life.

And welcome Leoni Abel (DLG 47), who will set the sails for the Berlin Chapter in the years to come.

All the best and have a good summer!
Oliver Kitz

Oliver Kitz (DLG 19) is President of ClubDA.

Gleich vorweg: Papua-Neuguinea ist mit Sicherheit eines der schönsten Länder der Welt. Für mich persönlich vielleicht das schönste: Palmen-gesäumte Meeresbuchten, türkise Lagunen, eine atemberaubende Vielfalt der Meeresfauna in den Korallenriffen vor den Inseln des Südpazifiks, Mangrovenwälder, dichter Urwald mit über 30 Varianten des Paradiesvogels, des Wappentiers von Papua-Neuguinea, aber auch pittoreske Felslandschaften in den Hochlagen im Landesinneren. Auch klimatisch ist die Vielfalt bemerkenswert: von den tropischen Zonen der Küstengebiete mit all ihren Früchten (Kokos, Mango, Papaya, Kakao, Sago, Yam, etc.) bis zu Erhebungen von über 4.000 Metern, auf denen fast alles Gemüse des gemäßigten Klimas wächst, ja sogar manchmal Schnee fällt – und dies unweit des Äquators.

Die Diversität in Flora und Fauna geht einher mit Kontrasten innerhalb der Bevölkerung. In vergleichsweise dünner Besiedelung – rund 7,5 Millionen Menschen leben auf der Osthälfte der zweitgrößten Insel der Welt, deren Fläche mit den vorgelagerten Inseln etwa jener von Deutschland und Österreich zusammen entspricht – leben über 800 Völker mit ähnlich vielen eigenständigen Sprachen. Zur ethnischen gesellt sich die soziale Diversität. Einer schmalen Elite, vor allem in den nach wie vor kleinen Städten, steht die große Mehrheit der Landbevölkerung gegenüber. Immer noch leben 85 Prozent der Bevölkerung auf dem Land, was unter anderem



Bürogebäude in Port Moresby

auch daran liegt, dass die Verkehrsverbindungen in dem zerklüfteten Land schwierig sind, sodass ein Pendeln schwer möglich ist und die Hauptstadt Port Moresby aus den meisten Teilen des Landes überhaupt nur per Schiff oder Flugzeug erreichbar ist.

Wer nur einen begrenzten Zeitabschnitt in dem Land verbringt, für den tun sich weit mehr Fragen auf als Antworten: Wie kann es sein, dass in Zeiten der „Globalisierung“ eines der wohlhabendsten und eines der „zurückgebliebensten“ Länder – Australien und PNG – direkt nebeneinander, ja über die Torres Strait in Sichtweite zueinander existieren? Wie kann es sein, dass ein Land mit derart fruchtbaren Böden und dünner Besiedelung, mit so vielen Bodenschätzen – Kupfer, Gold, Nickel, Blei, Erdöl, Erdgas – materiell so arm ist? Das Bruttonationaleinkommen pro Kopf beträgt in Australien 64.680 USD, in PNG 2.020 USD.*

**Zahlen laut Fischer Weltalmanach online*

DA Alumni and Current Affairs

Papua-Neuguinea – Verschenktes Paradies Hermann Hagspiel

Die versuchten Antworten eines zwar aufmerksamen, aber nur kurz im Land weilenden Beobachters müssen zwangsläufig viel Spekulatives enthalten. Da wäre einmal der wenig vertraute Umgang mit „westlichen“ Errungenschaften – von technischen bis hin zu gesellschaftlich-politischen Einführungen. Ich versuchte mir stets vor Augen zu halten, dass – zumindest im Hochland – der Kontakt zur Außenwelt erst seit 80 Jahren, also seit der heutigen Großelterngeneration, besteht, in manchen abgelegenen Tälern sogar erst seit den 1960er Jahren. Bis dahin lebten diese Gesellschaften allein von der Subsistenzlandwirtschaft; es gab kein Metall und auch kein Rad.

Während der Umgang mit herkömmlichen Materialien mit viel handwerklichem Geschick erfolgt – exakt und prachtvoll gestaltete Gar-

tenlandschaften, die Rundhäuser aus „bush material“, die geflochtenen Zäune, die traditionellen Festtagskostüme – verfällt die im Zuge der australischen Kolonialverwaltung aufgebaute Infrastruktur seit der Unabhängigkeit 1975 zusehends. So ästhetisch und gepflegt die traditionellen Häuser in den Dörfern sind, so schäbig wirken in kurzer Zeit die „permanent houses“. Symptomatisch dafür ist das Pfarrhaus in Rulna, einem Ort, der nur zu Fuß erreichbar ist und wo ich nach einer sechsstündigen Bergwanderung übernachtete. Es war vom ersten katholischen Missionar in der 1.500 Seelen-Gemeinde, dem Pfarrer Janusz (John) Bartoszek, großzügig mit zwei Stockwerken im europäischen Stil und mit westlichem Wohnstandard erbaut worden. Doch nach einer Vakanz von wenigen Jahren funktionierten weder Dusche noch WC. Für die visitierenden Priester haben die Pfarrmitglieder mit viel

Nach 2 Tagen Wanderung auf 3000 m: Gastfamilie teilt mit dem Autor die Freude über neugeborene Schweine

Lager für Bauholz – mit der Axt gespalten



Aufwand ein niedliches Klo aus Buschmaterial im Garten gebaut, anstatt das Leck im Wassertank des Pfarrhauses zu schließen ...

Über Jahrzehnte war PNG ein Schwerpunktland der österreichischen Entwicklungszusammenarbeit. Mir wurde berichtet, dass in manchen Zeiten mehr als 50 „Entwicklungshelfer“ des OeED bzw. später von Horizont 3000 gleichzeitig im Land arbeiteten. Doch was sind die Hindernisse, die das Land trotz aller Geldzuflüsse und technischen Hilfe nicht vorankommen lassen? In der öffentlichen politischen Rhetorik werden die ausländischen Investoren beschworen. Allerdings gibt es diese fast nur im Primärsektor, wobei China eine immer wichtigere Rolle spielt. Selbst der früher dominierende agrarische Sektor verfällt. Abgesehen von Ölpalmen-Plantagen – oft auf den Flächen abgeholzter Tropenwälder –

wurden in den letzten Jahrzehnten eine Kaffee-, Kakao- oder Kokosplantage nach der anderen aufgegeben. Im Hochland soll es an die 30 Kaffeeplantagen mit der hochwertigen Sorte „Arabica“ gegeben haben; davon bestehen heute noch zwei oder drei. Ähnlich sieht es angeblich an den Küsten und auf den Inseln aus, wo ebenfalls der Großteil der „Estates“ „back to bush“ ging. Das spiegelt sich in der Exportstatistik: Einem Volumen von 1,4 Mio. Sack Kaffee (Green Beans) in guten Zeiten standen 2015 weniger als 800.000 Sack gegenüber.

Doch wer soll aus dem Ausland kommen, in einem Land investieren, dessen Transportverbindungen schlecht bis nicht existierend sind, das von fast täglichen Stromausfällen geplagt wird – wenn überhaupt eine Anbindung ans Netz besteht (2030 sollen 70% der Haushalte

Gärten bei Mount Hagen



Busch-Klo beim Pfarrhaus



an das Stromnetz angeschlossen sein, lautet ein ehrgeiziges Ziel der Regierung), das zwar dank eines irischen Investors (mit IFC-Beteiligung) ein nahezu geschlossenes Mobilfunknetz, aber kaum Internetzugang auf dem Land besitzt, vor allem aber das über kein Grundbuch und keine berechenbare rechtstaatliche Ordnung verfügt – mit all den verbundenen Sicherheitsrisiken?

Und dennoch: Was hindert die Menschen des Landes, selbst die Dinge in die Hand zu nehmen, unternehmerisch aktiv zu werden? Denn an Arbeitgebern fehlt es allenthalben für die schnell wachsende Bevölkerung. Es gehört zu den vielzitierten „9 von 10“-Relationen: 9 von 10 Landbewohner haben keinen Strom, kein Wasser im Haus, keine abgeschlossene Schulbildung, kein Bankkonto und eben auch keine Arbeit im formellen Sektor.

Zwei Faktoren werden unter Expats immer wieder genannt – die Stichworte lauten „Papagraun“ und Familienverbund. Und beide Faktoren hängen zusammen. Individuelles Eigentum an Grund und Boden widerspricht dem traditionellen Rechtsverständnis (customary law). Jede Familie („Clan“) bewirtschaftet seit Generationen ihr Land kollektiv; jeder und vor allem jede arbeitet mit und ernährt sich von den Früchten des Gartens. Dieser ist die Lebensader der Menschen auf dem Land und wird entsprechend hoch geehrt.

„Westliche“ Errungenschaften wie Straßen, Stromleitungen, Missionsstationen, Plantagen, Werksgelände oder Bergwerke konnten in kolonialer Zeit und auch heute noch nur geschaffen werden, indem der Staat den traditionellen Eigentümern gegen kollektive Entschädigung den

Highlands Highway in der Provinz Enga



Typisches Wohnhaus im Hochland



Grund abkaufte und an die Investoren verleaste. Und natürlich gibt es kaum einen Fall einer solchen Transaktion, in der nicht – eher früher als später – „compensation claims“ von vormaligen „Grundbesitzern“ – die Schreiben sind stets eindrucksvoll mit einer Vielzahl von Unterschriften versehen –, die sich als zu kurz gekommen betrachten, vor allem wenn die neue Einrichtung einmal floriert, vorgebracht wurden. Und nicht selten werden auch „customary means“, sprich: physische Gewalt, eingesetzt, um den Forderungen Nachdruck zu verleihen.

Der zweite Aspekt, der einer wirtschaftlichen „Entwicklung“ entgegensteht, ist die Gesellschaftsstruktur, die weit entfernt ist von individualistischen „westlichen“ Konzepten. So sehr Besitz traditionell Gemeinschaftseigentum des jeweiligen Clans ist, so wenig besitzt der

Mensch eine Identität außerhalb dieses „Wantok“ (One talk, i.e. Stamm)-Definitionsrahmens. Bezeichnend erscheint, dass viele Menschen die ich traf, ihr Geburtsdatum und damit ihr Alter gar nicht kennen, aber auch die Zugehörigkeit zur „Familie“, zu einem Clan flexibel definiert wird. Durch die verbreitete – wenngleich ungesetzliche – Polygamie ist für Außenstehende oft schwer nachvollziehbar, welche Verwandtschaftsverhältnisse vorliegen, wenn sich jemand als „Bruder“ oder „Schwester“ von jemandem bezeichnet. Klar scheint nur, dass es innerhalb der Bevölkerung eine jeweils unzweifelhafte Zuordnung zur Blutsverwandtschaft gibt und damit Anspruch auf den gemeinsamen Besitz.

So sehr dies Vorteile in der Solidarität bei Verpflichtungen hat – jeder beteiligt sich an der Aufbringung des Brautpreises oder der „Com-

Meeresbucht in der Stadt Madang (Norden)



Kunstvolle Dachdeckerarbeit



pensation“-Zahlung für einen Schaden, den ein einzelnes Stammesmitglied einem Mitglied eines anderen Stammes – ob verschuldet oder nicht, beispielsweise bei Verkehrsunfällen oder Raufhändeln – zugefügt hat, so sehr fühlen sich aber auch alle Mitglieder eines Clans am wirtschaftlichen Erfolg eines einzelnen Mitglieds beteiligt. Ja, in der gesellschaftlichen Hierarchie steigt nur jemand zum „Big Man“ auf, dem es gelingt, den Wohlstand der gesamten Verwandtschaft zu erhöhen, etwa durch unternehmerisches Talent – oder ein öffentliches Amt.

In den Verwerfungen der kollidierenden Rechtssysteme traditioneller und westlicher Provenienz führt dies nicht selten dazu, dass sich wirtschaftlich oder gesellschaftlich erfolgreiche Mitglieder eines Clans in die Anonymität der Städte zurückziehen – und, leider, auch oft das

Kapital nicht im Land investieren, sondern in „sichere Häfen“ im Ausland bringen.

Was kann man vom Ausland her tun? Viele kluge Menschen haben sich bereits den Kopf über effektive Entwicklungszusammenarbeit zerbrochen und ich maße mir nicht an, nach sechs Monaten „Feld“-Erfahrung ein Erfolgsrezept zu besitzen. Offenbar haben bisherige Ansätze strukturell wenig gefruchtet. Auch wenn kein kausaler Zusammenhang besteht, ist doch die Bilanz der Tausenden idealistischer internationaler „Volunteers“ angesichts der Rückwärtsbewegung in so vielen (uns wichtigen) Bereichen – Infrastruktur, ja teilweise auch Bildung und Gesundheitswesen – ernüchternd. Der einzige Österreicher, den meine (männlichen) Begegnungen auf dem Land in Erinnerung zu haben schienen, war „Arnie“ Schwarzenegger ...

Marktfrau mit Pork Take-away (Mt. Hagen)



Mt. Hagen – Blick von den umgebenden Bergen



DA Alumni and Current Affairs

Papua-Neuguinea – Verschenktes Paradies Hermann Hagspiel

Soll man die Menschen sich selbst überlassen? Aus dem Blickwinkel eines entwickelten Landes haben sie ja alle materiellen Voraussetzungen, um sich ebenfalls zu entwickeln – oder wie es der US-Botschafter Walter E. North in einer Rede bei seinem Besuch in Mt. Hagen Ende 2015 recht unverblümt ausdrückte: „This is a rich country. What this country needs is not so much money but rather a change in attitude!“

Andererseits begegnet man als Ausländer in Dörfern den vielen strahlenden und oft aufgeweckten Kindern, von denen laut Statistik nur jedes Zehnte eine Chance auf eine reguläre Arbeit im späteren Leben hat, von denen die Mehrheit die Schule abbricht, im besten Fall den Eltern im Garten hilft, im schlechteren gelangweilt im Dorf herumhängt, an Alkohol und Drogen kommt, im schlechtesten in die Stadt abwandert und sich

dort mangels familiärer Netze den Gangs anschließt und als „Raskals“ die Straßen unsicher macht.

Diese Kinder können ebenso wenig wie das Mädchen, das als Pfand im Friedensschluss einem anderen Stamm als Braut übergeben wird, etwas dafür, dass sie in diese Gesellschaft hineingeboren wurden. Haben wir als privilegierte, ebenfalls meist unverdient im Wohlstand aufgeklärter Länder aufgewachsene Menschen nicht so etwas wie eine moralische Verantwortung, eine Pflicht, einzugreifen, wo die eigene Gesellschaft diesen jungen Menschen ihre Lebenschancen verwehrt – zum eigenen Schaden – und längerfristig wohl auch zu unserem Schaden: Denn wie lange können solche Unterschiede im Wohlstand nebeneinander existieren, ohne zu größeren Konflikten zu führen? Es ist dies eine Frage, die sich aktuell gerade an den Grenzen Europas brennender denn je stellt.

„Singsing“-Gruppe am Independence Day 16.9.



Hermann Hagspiel, 20. DLG, beriet von September 2015 bis März 2016 im Rahmen eines von der Österreichischen Botschaft Canberra unterstützten Projekts den Erzbischof von Mount Hagen, Douglas Young, beim Aufbau einer Beratungs- und Vermarktungsorganisation für die landbewirtschaftenden Pfarren. Er arbeitete zuvor als österreichischer Handelsattaché/-rat in Moskau, Brüssel, Tokio und Sofia, für die Europäische Kommission in Bulgarien, als Geschäftsführer der fairea gmbh im Ökosozialen Forum und ist seit 2012 selbständig als Consultant für ländliche Entwicklung und seit 2014 auch als Lektor für „European Studies“ an der FH-Burgenland tätig.

ClubDA Scholarships 2015-16

Sarah Baghdady: a portrait Aleksandra Wichrowska

The ClubDA Scholarship does not only provide students with financial help but also gave me the opportunity to get to know Sarah Baghdady, an ambitious and eager ETIA1 student, better and listen to her story.

Sarah was born and raised in the countryside of Styria, Austria. Her parents immigrated from Egypt about 30 years ago, which meant a confrontation with two diverging cultures. She says that this clash of cultures, including the difficulties that are linked to it, was a major blessing to her life. Knowing these different societies, she studied one semester at University of Miami, USA, during her studies in Business Administration and Economics in order to broaden her spectrum. After graduating from university in Vienna, Sarah lived out her passion for travelling by taking an internship at the Austrian Trade Commission in Bangkok. She used this opportunity to travel across Asia and experience another – for her unknown – culture. It was this journey to Asia coupled with her various trips to Egypt that rose her awareness to the environmental issues the world is facing. By experiencing especially water scarcity and immense waste management problems first hand, she applied to the ETIA program directly from Bangkok with the help of her sister, who just graduated from the same program that year.



Already as a child, Sarah knew that in the future she would want to work in a field where she could contribute to the world being a better place and be able to look back and be proud of what she had done. Already in high school she started to get involved with social projects mostly designed for children, but also for people with disabilities. From the beginning of her Economics Business studies, Sarah has been working in an office that campaigns for the rights of people with disabilities. On the one hand this job supports her belief in giving underprivileged people a voice and on the other hand contributes to financially disburden her parents.

Sarah is enormously thankful for receiving the ClubDA Scholarship. It gave her the opportunity to reduce her working hours and fully profit from the vast range of courses and events offered at the DA. Without this financial support she would have had to work a lot more alongside her studies. Furthermore, she underlines that due to the ClubDA's support she now has the possibility to eventually consider undertaking an unpaid internship to gain further working experience without burdening her parents with additional expenses.

Apart from her professional ambitions, Sarah finds balance in painting, arts and sports. She is a very positive person and spreads joy wherever she goes. She sees herself as a "child of the world" and I am sure she will make her way and will eventually bring about the changes she is longing for.

The author Aleksandra Wichrowska is enrolled in the 20th Master of Advanced International Studies (MAIS) programme at the DA and received the ClubDA Scholarship for the academic year 2015-16.

ClubDA Scholarships 2015-16

Aleksandra Wichrowska: a portrait Sarah Baghdady

Thanks to the ClubDA Scholarship I got the opportunity to hear the story of an ambitious and fascinating young lady on the way to fulfil her dreams. When I heard that Aleksandra was the other one to be granted this scholarship, the first time we actively faced each other was with a big smile in the halls of the DA. The two of us knew exactly how happy the other one was. Already in the first course we attended together, we sat next to each other and joined for our group work. During the preparations for the presentation, I had the chance to become familiar with the way Aleksandra does her academic work and interacts with others. I immediately knew what made her special and was inspired by her efficiency and her readiness to help.

Ever since Aleksandra's childhood, she felt the need to help wherever possible. She was the type of child who doctored and nursed her dolls. When she grew older, she realized that being a doctor could only help individual people. However, Aleksandra wanted to have an impact on a larger scale. Due to the mounting crises and the humanitarian disasters, she wanted to contribute as good as possible in preventing or mitigating these challenges and be able to give hope to people in need. In order to do so, her dream is to be part of the United Nations family. The DA represents a valuable component of her journey to get there.



Prior to the DA, Aleksandra studied law at the Juridicum in Vienna, where she spent most of her time. After she graduated from law school, she did her legal training in a court in Vienna and took an internship with the Austrian Chamber of Commerce in Chicago, where she discovered her strive to get out in the world. From there, she applied for the MAIS program, which she had heard about at a job fair at the Juridicum. Despite her expectations, she was stunned when she got the notification of acceptance.

Once Aleksandra had achieved this first step of being accepted, her parents kindly offered her financial support. However, she always wanted to financially disburden her parents and had already started working at the beginning of her law studies. The ClubDA scholarship gave her the possibility to cope with daily routine easier and focus on the large selection of courses,

societies, discussions and leisure programs of the DA. Aleksandra enjoys studying in a multicultural environment meeting people from all over the world. Since she was born and raised by her Polish parents in Lower Austria, she understands the challenges but even more the advantages of combining and interconnecting cultures. She lives up to her belief that it is important to be open towards other cultures and mind-sets, which is only one of the numerous fascinating aspects of the DA.

The author Sarah Baghdady is enrolled in the 9th Master of Science in Environmental Technology & International Affairs (ETIA) programme at the DA and received the ClubDA Scholarship for the academic year 2015-16.

Polemics – The Magazine of the Diplomatic Academy

For several years now, DA's students have been successfully publishing "Polemics – The Magazine of the Diplomatic Academy" which features articles on a broad variety of topics written by the students. From now on, one Polemics article will be included in every DA News issue. To enjoy the current issue of Polemics in its entirety, please go to <https://dapolemics.com/>

The Gambia: Jammeh under Attack Anonymous

With all the enemies Gambian President Yahya Jammeh has made over the years, this year seems to have been his most difficult one. Unlike previous years, the current political unrest evolving in The Gambia, involving the United Democratic Party (UDP), Gambia's largest opposition party, poses a significant threat to Jammeh's survival and has long-term implications for Gambia's democracy.

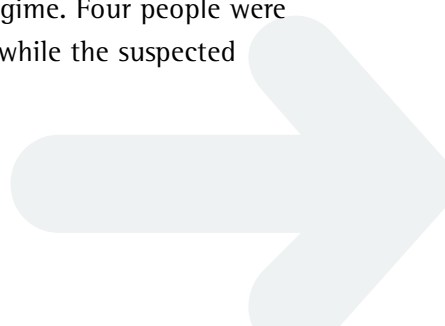
Since the 1994 military coup that overthrew Africa's longest surviving multiparty democracy, Jammeh has ruled the tiny West African nation of about 2 million people heavy-handedly, winning four elections, which most international observers termed anything but free or fair. His twenty-two-year presidency has been marred by violence and controversy. He has been accused of human rights violations by his opponents, as well as international human rights organizations. Amongst the atrocities he has committed, Jammeh ordered the use of live ammunition to disperse student protesters in 2000. Fourteen students were killed and many injured. A year later, an indemnity act was passed by Gambia's parliament to protect the officers who had been involved.

In 2012, following his vow to make Gambia a peaceful country and to rid it of all criminals, Jammeh ordered the killing of nine death-row inmates without following due process of the Gambian law. This event resulted in many

condemnations from international human rights organizations, as well as international bodies such as the European Union, which is Gambia's biggest development partner. In response to the criticism, Jammeh removed The Gambia from the Commonwealth, describing the institution as "neo-colonial" and vowing that The Gambia would never be colonized again.

Jammeh's mystical undertakings and his populist behavior, typical of "old school" African dictators, continue to haunt Gambia's process of democratization and its relationship with the outside world. From his claim that he could cure HIV/AIDS using herbs and bananas, to his outright condemnation of the LGBTI community, proclaiming that he would "slit [the] throat" of any homosexual found in The Gambia, in addition to constant crackdowns, tortures, forced disappearances and even the murder of journalists, academics, political opponents and human rights activists, Gambia has certainly earned the title "North Korea of Africa."

Various alleged and some verified military attempts to remove him in the past have failed. The most recent occurred in December 2014, when a group of dissident Gambians in the diaspora attacked the State House in an attempt to overthrow the Jammeh regime. Four people were killed and many arrested while the suspected attackers escaped.



In April of this year, another peaceful protest for electoral reforms has once again thrust Jammeh into the spotlight. On April 14, 2016, a group of young Gambians, led by Solo Sandeng, engaged in a peaceful protest demanding electoral reforms. Sandeng, although a national mobilizer of the UDP, nevertheless acted independently from his party when he incited the protests.

The group was protesting against certain amendments to Gambian legislation. Last year, the government amended the Electoral Act by increasing the fees for candidates and political party registration so as not to make the presidency “cheap for every Tom, Dick and Harry,” according to the national mobilizer of the ruling party. Prior to the amendment, presidential hopefuls were required to pay a fee of 10,000 Gambian Dalasis (approximately USD 250). Candidates interested in running under the amended section must now pay a mind-blowing 500,000 (about USD 10,000). Moreover, registering a new political party costs one million Dalasis (around USD 20,000).

Among the demands of the peaceful protesters was the removal of the age limit barring certain members of the opposition from running in this year’s election. The 1997 constitution, tailored to suit Jammeh’s political aspirations, pegged the age at which an individual is eligible to run for the office of the president. One should be of 30 years but not more than 65 years of age, which

prohibits the leader of the UDP from contesting the December elections.

The protesters also petitioned for an open society, with freedom of assembly and expression, and an end to police brutality. In recent years, the NGO Freedom House has ranked Gambia “Not Free” in both the press and internet category. Journalists and media houses are under constant self-censorship while ordinary citizens are afraid to speak out against the government in public. In 2013, the government amended the media law to criminalize the use of the internet and social media to criticize the government and any government official. Any person convicted under this law risks serving a jail term of three years.

Sadeng’s peaceful protest was met with heavy police brutality. He and many others were arrested and detained. A report by Amnesty International claimed that Sadeng had died in custody from wounds sustained from torture. Reports of his death sparked another peaceful protest. This time led by UDP party leader Ousainou Darboe, who demanded the body of Sadeng “dead or alive.” He and most of his party’s elderly executive members were arrested and whisked away by the police. They are currently being detained and are facing seven trumped-up charges ranging from conspiracy to commit felony, incitement of violence, unlawful assembly, riot, riotously interfering with vehicles and holding a procession without permit.

As always, international organizations and political institutions, such as the United Nations, the EU and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), have released statements condemning what they term the government's "heavy response to peaceful protesters." The United States government has also released a statement reminding The Gambia of its own constitution. The Gambia should, according to the statement, respect their constitution which allows for freedom of assembly.

With the world watching, Gambians are determined to bring an end to the twenty-two-year rule of Jammeh. Events are building up to what many activists are calling the "Gambia Rising." Every court sitting attracts hundreds of UDP supporters and activists, gathering to demand the release of arrested party leaders, as well as the body of Solo and three other party members who are suspected dead. The diaspora of Gambian activists, who have been calling for unified opposition, view this as an opportunity to remove Jammeh in the upcoming elections.

The government's attempt to give in to the international pressure of arraigning the accused before the court, as stipulated in The Gambia's constitution, has created yet another opportunity for the protesters to continue to demand reform, as well as Jammeh's resignation, openly and without fear. Undoubtedly, these events, including the court cases, are rapidly transforming the

political landscape of The Gambia from a country of fear to open dissent.

It may be too early to draw conclusions, as events are still unfolding, but the recent waves of public defiance represent a great challenge to Jammeh, who has vowed to rule The Gambia for "one billion years." As the court cases continue, more people are expected to join with those already protesting. Nonetheless, if the government is unable to produce the body of Sandeng, this might incite further protest, even if Darboe and his comrades are released. It is also much too early to predict the outcome of the elections, but irrespective of the final result, the protests affirm that Gambians are slowly rising, and fear is withering in this too-long impoverished nation.

For more highly interesting articles please visit

<https://dapolemics.com/>

New Members of DA's Faculty 2015-16

Walter F. Baber

Fulbright Visiting Professor

Nationality: United States

Fields of Research: Public law, environmental policy, political theory

Academic Career: Walter F. Baber holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of North Carolina and a J.D. from the University of San Diego. He is a professor in the Environmental Sciences and Policy Program and the Graduate Center for Public Policy and Administration at California State University, Long Beach. He is also an Associate of the Center for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance at the University of Canberra and a member of the Lead Faculty Group of the Amsterdam-based Earth System Governance Project.

Academic Background: Baber was the 2009 Fulbright Distinguished Chair of Environmental Policy at the Politecnico di Torino. He was a Visiting Fellow in the Research School of the Social Sciences at Australian National University in 2012. And, he has recently been named the Fulbright Distinguished Visiting Professor of Political Science at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.



Baber's 2009 book, *Global Democracy and Sustainable Jurisprudence: Deliberative Environmental Law* (co-authored with Robert V. Bartlett), won the 2011 International Studies Association Book Award for international ethics.

Courses at the DA: Seminar in U.S. Foreign Policy, Seminar in Democracy, Globalization and the Environment

Reason for coming to the DA: To serve as the Fulbright Visiting Professor of Political Science.



New Members of DA's Faculty 2015-16

Arthur Rachwald

Visiting Professor

Nationality: United States

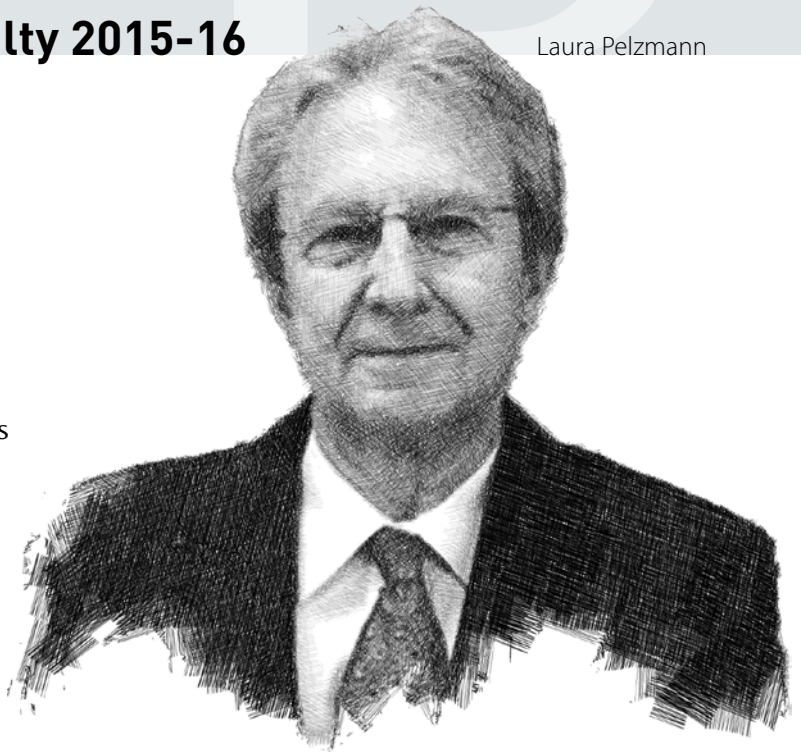
Fields of Research: Transatlantic Security Issues

Academic Career: Besides a long career at the United States Naval Academy, he has been a visiting professorial lecturer at the Diplomatic Academy for over a decade as well as at the SAIS Bologna Center.

Academic Background: After completing his PhD at the University of California, he began a Post Doctorate at the Russian Research Centre at the University of Harvard.

Course at the DA: Methodology and Theory of International Relations, Advanced Topics in International Relations: A Geo-Strategic Perspective (Seminar)

Reason for coming to the DA: Enjoying the rewarding relations with students at the DA, he wanted to come to Vienna for more than just a short visit. He mentions not only the quality and cosmopolitan character of the institution, but also the cultural opportunities the city of Vienna has to offer.



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Alumni Meetings reviewed

Recent Alumni Meetings Andreas Ehrmann

Since ClubDA implemented its chapter strategy in spring 2009, seventeen local chapters have organised 178 alumni meetings in Vienna and around the world. More than 5,800 graduates and students as well as friends of the Diplomatic Academy took part.

Recently, the following meetings took place:

19 December 2015:

8th ClubDA Outdoor Weekend:

St. Anton am Arlberg

ClubDA's Switzerland Chapter organised this first Skiing Weekend within the Club's "Outdoor Weekends" programme.

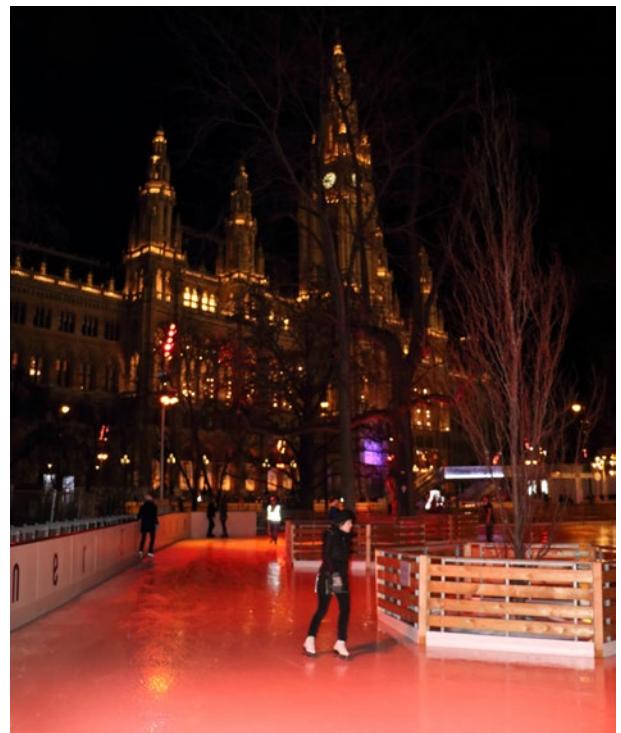
4 February 2016:

Vienna Chapter Stammtisch

In order to establish a series of Vienna Chapter events especially organised for younger alumni and students, DA alumnae Finja Draxler and Jasmin Ploner organised the first "Vienna Chapter Stammtisch". With this good old Viennese tradition, they want to get in touch and to collect ideas on what each and every one of DA's young alumni expects from this network. Almost 20 alumni took part in this event.

9 February 2016:

Curling and Skating at Wiener Eistraum



40 DA alumni and students joined us for ice skating and curling at the "Wiener Eistraum" in front of Vienna's city hall. The Club organised this event for the fifth time and thanks stadt wien marketing gmbh for its precious support.

Alumni Meetings reviewed

Recent Alumni Meetings Andreas Ehrmann

20 February 2016:

14th DA Ski and Snowboard Championships
(see article on page 28)

8 March 2016:

DA LINK 2016 (see article on page 23)

9 March 2016:

10th Alumni Hall of Fame Talk:
Globalisierung und Wohlfahrtsstaaten



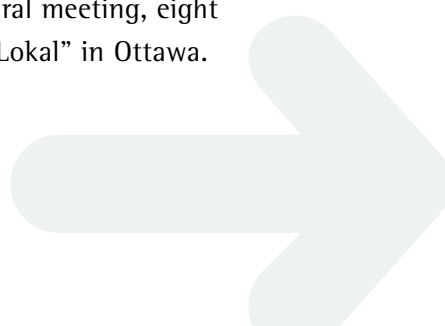
„Wem nützt, wem schadet die Globalisierung? Wie können wir unseren Wohlfahrtsstaat retten?“ Diese Fragen stellten sich im Rahmen einer Podiumsdiskussion an der DA Wien Petra Bayr (Abgeordnete zum Nationalrat; Bereichssprecherin für Globale Entwicklung der SPÖ), Wendelin Ettmayer (Botschafter und Abgeordneter zum Nationalrat i.R.; Mitglied der DA Alumni Hall of Fame) und Claus Raidl (Präsident der Oesterreichischen Nationalbank; Vizepräsident des Europäischen Forums Alpbach). Der Text des einleitenden Vortrags von Wendelin Ettmayer ist unter www.wendelinettmayer.at/studien/artikel/globalisierung abrufbar.

31 March 2016:

Inaugural Meeting of ClubDA's Ottawa Chapter



DA alumni Birgit Scheichl, Philip Tomlinson and David Murphy Haglund took the initiative to establish this 17th local chapter of ClubDA. For its inaugural meeting, eight alumni gathered at “Das Lokal” in Ottawa.



3 April 2016:

Alumni meet Students in Kiev

20 alumni and students met on the occasion of the student's annual study trip to Ukraine.

28 April 2016:

Vienna Chapter Stammtisch

20 alumni gathered at Wieden Bräu for the second Stammtisch. To kick things off, Hermann Hagspiel gave a short presentation on his time in Papua New Guinea. For more on this topic please see the article on page 4.

10 May 2016:

Alumni Meeting in Berlin



After more than ten years as president of Club-DA's Berlin Chapter, Wolfgang Dreusch said goodbye and passed on the baton to Leoni Abel.

26-28 May 2016:

9th ClubDA Outdoor Weekend:

Weinviertel (see article on page 27)

11 June 2016:

Switzerland Chapter Meet and Greet

15 June 2016:

Alumni Meeting in Beijing

1-2 July 2016:

18th International Alumni Meeting

(see article on page 24)

The Diplomatic Academy and ClubDA thank all chapter presidents, the Diplomatic Academy Students Initiative and all other alumni, students and partners who made these events possible.

Please visit our website

www.da-vienna.ac.at/alumni/events

to see additional photos of recent meetings and find out more about upcoming events organised by the DA and ClubDA as well as its local chapters.

2013

Alumni Meetings reviewed

DA LINK Mentor & Career Talks 2016 Andreas Ehrmann

On 18 June 2013, DA and ClubDA organised the first „DA LINK – Mentor and Career Talks“. Since then, once a year the DA invites CEOs, department heads and human resources officials from highly renowned companies, organisations and institutions to come to the Academy to talk about their sectors in general and companies in particular and to sit down and talk with DA students about their career plans.

The fourth “DA LINK” career day took place on 8 March 2016. The following companies and organisations were present at DA LINK 2016:

- ★ Boston Consulting Group
- ★ Deutsche Bank
- ★ OMV
- ★ Pharmig
- ★ Teach For Austria
- ★ Wirtschaftskammer Österreich

DA LINK 2017 will take place in March 2017. We ask all alumni to get in touch with companies and organisations who might be interested in taking part in DA LINK 2017 and to inform ClubDA’s board about possible participants at club@da-vienna.ac.at.





Alumni Meetings reviewed

18th International Alumni Meeting Andreas Ehrmann

50 years after the students of the first Diploma Programme graduated from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, more than 270 alumni and friends returned to the Academy for its 18th International Alumni Meeting.

After ClubDA's annual General Assembly on Friday, the DA Sommerfest was a great opportunity for alumni to meet old and make new friends amongst other alumni, recent graduates, students as well as partners and patrons of the Academy.

On Saturday, 29 alumni and friends took the train to Slovakia's capital to enjoy lunch at Bratislava Castle overlooking the city, a guided walking tour of the Old Town and a wine tasting at Vinoteka Trunk. The latter was organised by ClubDA's Bratislava Chapter and sponsored by the Austrian embassy in Bratislava.

For the ride back to Vienna the group boarded the high-speed catamaran Twin City Liner. The trip on the Danube River took about 90 minutes and treated the passengers to beautiful views of Bratislava, Devin Castle, Hainburg an der Donau and the Donauauen National Park.

During this year's Sommerfest, four distinguished alumni were inducted into the DA Alumni Hall of Fame:

- ✦ **Hélène BAUDET (DLG 23, 1986-88):**
Director, Global Diversity & Inclusiveness, Ernst & Young (EY)
- ✦ **Andrei GALBUR (SPC 11, 1998):**
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova
- ✦ **Tudor ULIANOVSKI (SPC 25, 2006):**
Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva; former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republik of Moldova
- ✦ **Barthold VEENENDAAL (DLG 19, 1982-84):**
Senior Vice-President, Schneider Electric; Member of the Board, Unichips Food Group

More photos are posted on DA's website and on ClubDA's new web portal:

<https://www.da-vienna.ac.at>

<https://club.da-vienna.ac.at>

Andreas Ehrmann is Head of DA's Alumni and Administrative Office.



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Alumni Meetings reviewed

18th International Alumni Meeting Andreas Ehrmann

ClubDA General Assembly 2016



© DA/Ernst Weingartner

DA Sommerfest 2016



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Alumni Meetings reviewed

18th International Alumni Meeting Andreas Ehrmann

Alumni Excursion to Bratislava



Reunion of the 21st Diploma Programme





Alumni Meetings reviewed

9th ClubDA Outdoor Weekend:

Weinviertel Andreas Ehrmann

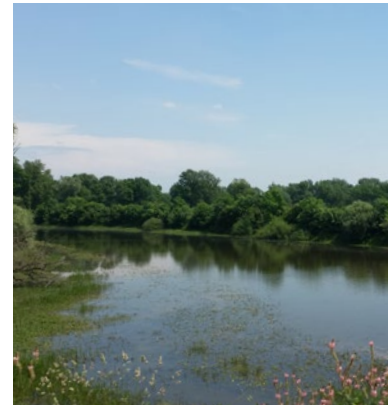
On the Corpus Christi weekend 2016, Club-DA organised its 9th Outdoor Weekend. This time, the group took their bicycles out for a ride from Retz via Hanfthal, Laa an der Thaya, Falkenstein, Großkrut, Hohenau an der March and Angern an der March to Gänserndorf, following parts of the Kamp-Thaya-March cycling trail.

After taking an early train from Vienna to Retz on Thursday, 26 May, the group kick-started the Outdoor Weekend 2016 with a 47.5-kilometre ride from Retz to Hanfthal along the Austrian-Czech border, followed by a visit of Laa an der Thaya in the evening.

A totally different terrain awaited the group on day two. An elevation gain of almost 650 metres had to be climbed over the course of this scenic 49-kilometres leg from Hanfthal to Großkrut.

On day three, the group went from Großkrut to Hohenau an der March, turned south and followed the Morava all the way to Angern an der March. After some more kilometres, it was time to board the train in Gänserndorf to return to Vienna.

We thank all participants for a memorable weekend!





Alumni Meetings reviewed

14th DA Ski and Snowboard Championships

Andreas Ehrmann

On 20 February 2016, 20 DA alumni and staff participated in the 14th annual DA Ski and Snowboard Championships, which the DA again had organised together with the Austrian Foreign Ministry as well as the „Club Diplomatie & Wirtschaft“.

The DA thanks all participants for making this ski trip such a successful and memorable event and hopes to see many of you again next year.

DA Students: Alpine Skiing Men

1st Alexios SEIBT, AUT, MAIS 20

2nd Zachary McGUINNESS, USA, MAIS 19

Alumnae: Alpine Skiing Women

1st Finja Maria DRAXLER, AUT, MAIS 18

2nd Antonia PRAUN, AUT, DLG 51

3rd Laura-Elise NOHL, AUT, DLG 50/MAIS 18

Alumni: Alpine Skiing Men

1st Gilbert KONZETT, AUT, DLG 43

2nd Simon TASSO, AUT/BRA/ITA, MAIS 18

3rd Gregor V. KOFLER, AUT, ETIA 2

4th Guido ALMERIGOGNA, ITA, MAIS 18

5th Ernst G. WALTER, AUT, DLG 7

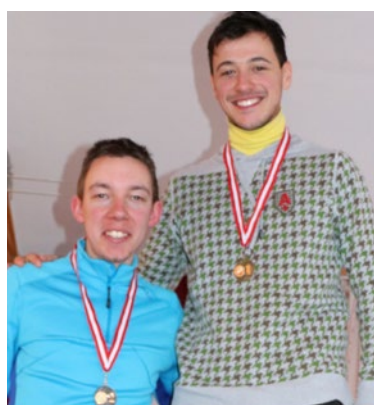
Alumni: Snowboard Men

1st Daniel REINHARDT, GER, MAIS 18

DA Faculty & Staff

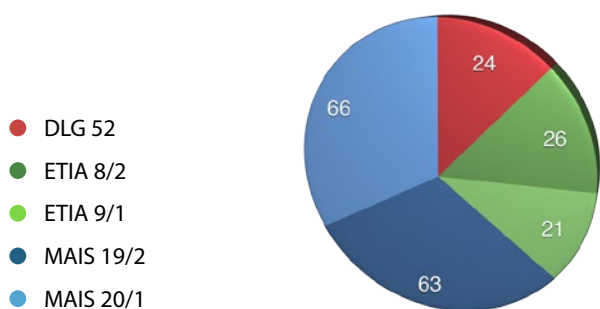
1st Andreas EHRMANN, AUT

In addition, four DA alumni took part in the Austrian Foreign Ministry's race.



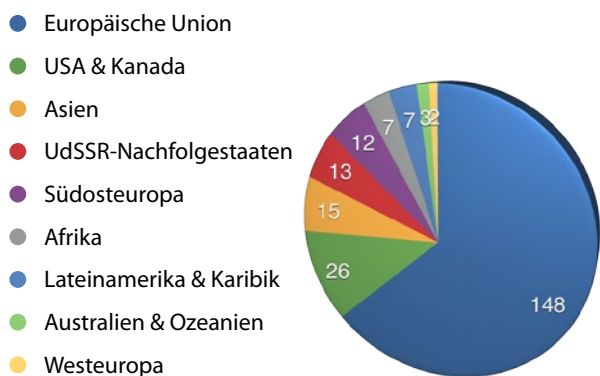
Studierende an der DA 2015/16 Ulf Steindl

Studierende nach Lehrgängen



Wie bereits in den vergangenen Jahren, möchten wir auch diesmal einen neuen Jahrgang von Studierenden an der Diplomatischen Akademie Wien vorstellen. Im Studienjahr 2015/16 besuchten **200** Studierende die Lehrveranstaltungen des 52. Diplomlehrgangs, der ETIA-Lehrgänge 8 und 9 sowie der MAIS-Lehrgänge 19 und 20.

Studierende nach Regionen *



Nicht weniger als **57** Nationalitäten waren in diesem akademischen Jahr an der Akademie vertreten, was den internationalen Charakter der DA einmal mehr unterstreicht. Die Mitgliedstaaten der Europäischen Union waren dabei **148** mal und somit am stärksten repräsentiert.

* ... Die genannten Nationalitäten summieren sich auf 233, da 28 Studierende mit Doppel- oder Mehrfachstaatsbürgerschaften berücksichtigt sind.

EU	148
Österreich	75
Großbritannien	12
Italien	12
Deutschland	10
Bulgarien	5
Ungarn	5
Frankreich	4
Rumänien	4
Spanien	4
Tschechische Republik	4
Kroatien	2
Schweden	2

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Studierende an der DA 2015/16 Ulf Steindl

EU 148

Slowenien	2
Belgien	1
Dänemark	1
Griechenland	1
Irland	1
Luxemburg	1
Niederlande	1
Polen	1

USA & Kanada 26

Vereinigte Staaten von Amerika	19
Kanada	7

Asien 15

Indien	4
Korea, Republik	4
Mongolei	2
China, VR	1
Libanon	1
Philippinen	1
Sri Lanka	1
Vereinigte Arabische Emirate	1

UdSSR-Nachfolgestaaten 13

Russische Föderation	4
Ukraine	4
Aserbaidshjan	1
Georgien	1
Kasachstan	1
Moldau	1
Tadschikistan	1

Südosteuropa 12

Serbien	5
Bosnien-Herzegowina	4
Türkei	2
Albanien	1

Afrika 7

Äthiopien	1
Botswana	1
Côte d'Ivoire	1
Gambia	1
Ruanda	1
Südafrika	1
Uganda	1

Lateinamerika & Karibik 7

Mexiko	3
Brasilien	1
Costa Rica	1
Ecuador	1
Peru	1

Australien & Ozeanien 3

Australien	2
Neuseeland	1

Westeuropa 2

Norwegen	1
Schweiz	1

Ulf Steindl ist Student des 20. MAIS-Lehrgangs und Assistent im Alumni and Administrative Office der Diplomatischen Akademie Wien.

ON THE CALENDAR ...



- 23 August 2016 8th Vienna Summer Meeting
- October 2016 Weinlese / grape harvest
- 3 September 2016 Alumni Meeting in Berlin
- 30 Sep – 1 Oct 2016 Alumni Meeting in Bucharest
- 7 November 2016 Frauen im Gespräch:
Jutta Stefan-Bastl
- 24 November 2016 Thanksgiving Dinner in Berlin
- 6 December 2016 St Nicholas Party &
Meet and Greet
- Jan / Feb 2017 15th DA Ski and Snowboard
Championships
- 11 Feb 2017 DASI Charity Ball
- February 2017 Wiener Eistraum
- March 2017 DA LINK 2017
- May 2017 10th ClubDA Outdoor Weekend
- 30 Jun / 1 Jul 2017 19th International Alumni
Meeting in Vienna with ClubDA General
Assembly, DA Sommerfest and the
traditional Alumni Excursion

For exact dates and additional events including interesting talks by DA alumni in Vienna as well as alumni meetings organised by ClubDA's local chapters please check out our online event calendar at www.da-vienna.ac.at/alumni/events.

Imprint

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