

Concluding Meeting of the 25th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

“Greening the Economy and Building Partnerships for Security in the OSCE Region”

Economic Participation – Contribution for an Active Labour Market Policy.

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- I. Possibilities and limits of Active Labour Market Policy (ALMP)
- II. Austrian Public Employment Service (PES Austria) policy as the EU benchmark in the combating of Youth Unemployment
- III. Contribution on the European level
- IV. The role of the OSCE in the field of LMP



I. Possibilities and limits of Active Labour Market Policy (ALMP)

- **Limits:**
 - ALMP doesn't generate jobs – a business - friendly Business - Location Policy is required
 - Not able to compensate completely for the shortcomings of the education system
- **Possibilities:**
 - Optimal Labour Market transparency - Reduction of Job Search Duration
 - Contribution to Stability and Security by prevention of permanent exclusion of disadvantaged people
 - Education/Qualification as a second chance for jobseekers/unemployed people and training on demand for companies
 - Support of employers to prevent unemployment



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II. Austrian Public Employment Service Policy as the EU benchmark in combating Youth Unemployment

- **Training Guarantee (since 1998)**

Each young person is guaranteed an apprenticeship/training place within a given period. This can be within the Dual Vocational Education system, i.e. practical training in a company combined with theoretical training in a vocational school or a Supracompany Apprenticeship, i.e. in public funded training institutions in cooperation with companies. Additionally internships, jobs and other training opportunities are offered.

The basic idea is, that each young person gets a concrete offer, no young person should end up on the street. Consequently, corresponding accompanying structures like Youth Coaching are in place.
- **Compulsory education until 18 (passed in 2016, with effect from September 2017)**

Legal obligation to complete educational training (otherwise the parents are fined). The basic idea is

 - to avoid early school leaving / high training drop outs,
 - to include less educated groups (parents), to take responsibility



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III. Contribution at the European level

- The European Network of Public Employment Services as an official advisory Board of the European Commission (established on a legal basis)
- Annual work programmes to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the individual country specific Labour Market Policy programmes
- Benchmarking and “Bench-learning”
- International assessments (every two years per country)
- Databases for good practice, an example of implemented policy:
The Austrian Youth Guarantee, based on the European Commission initiative, introduced in all member states in 2014
- EURES – the European portal for professional mobility



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IV. The role of the OSCE in the field of LMP

- The OSCE makes an important contribution
 - by laying the necessary socio-political foundations for a stable economy by ensuring Human Rights and the Rule of Law – a prerequisite for attracting investment and setting up a successful LMP



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Thank you for your attention!

