Austria and the US – The current situation

Austria is predominantly a services economy. Just under 100,000 Austrian jobs come from US controlled firms active in Austria. The US is the main (extra-EU) goods export destination (20 percent of goods exports) and services export destination (20 percent of services exports) for Austria. The main export sectors for Austria to the US are machinery, motor vehicles, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, and insurance services.

Structure of the Austrian economy (%)

Total (extra-EU) Austrian goods exports (%)

Total (extra-EU) Austrian services exports (%)

Investments between Austria and the US (€ bn)

Jobs in Austria from foreign controlled firms
Austria and TTIP – Expected effects

Austria has a strong economic relationship with the US, and TTIP would contribute to additional income, higher wages for both low- and high-skilled workers, and more investments.

GDP is expected to increase permanently by 0.9 percent. Exports to the US are expected to increase by 64 percent.

For Austria, by reducing tariff and non-tariff measures in TTIP, without lowering standards:
- The motor vehicles, construction, water transport, insurance and processed foods sectors are expected to grow most, but electrical machinery and metal production may decline;
- TTIP could facilitate a significant increase in production of car parts and components by firms in Austria (+19.9 percent) and exports in this sector are expected to increase by €2.5 bn;
- For Austrians the price for an average car could go down by 1.6 percent because of TTIP.

These estimates are based on NTB estimates from Ecorys (2009) and an ambitious scenario from CEPR (2013)

Read the entire study on http://www.amchameu.eu/sites/default/files/ttipmemberstatetestudy.pdf
The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, through the Department of Commerce, announced that the goods and services deficit was $43.4 billion in December, up $1.1 billion from $42.2 billion in November, revised.

December exports were $181.5 billion, $0.5 billion less than November exports. December imports were $224.9 billion, up $0.6 billion from November.

The Producer Price Index for final demand advanced 0.1 percent in January, seasonally adjusted, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

On an unadjusted basis, the final demand index declined 0.2 percent for the 12 months ended in January.

Industrial production increased 0.9 percent in January after decreasing 0.7 percent in December. The index for utilities jumped 5.4 percent; demand for heating moved up markedly after having been suppressed by unseasonably warm weather in December. Manufacturing output increased 0.5 percent in January and was 1.2 percent above its year-earlier level.

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 151,000 in January, and the unemployment rate was little changed at 4.9 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Job gains occurred in several industries, led by retail trade, food services and drinking places, health care, and manufacturing. Employment declined in private educational services, transportation and warehousing, and mining.

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. declined 0.2 percent in January to 123.2 (2010 = 100), following a 0.3 percent decrease in December and a 0.5 percent increase in November.

“The U.S. LEI fell slightly in January, driven primarily by large declines in stock prices and further weakness in initial claims for unemployment insurance,” said Ataman Ozyildirim, Director of Business Cycles and Growth Research at The Conference Board. “Despite back-to-back monthly declines, the index doesn’t signal a significant increase in the risk of recession, and its six-month growth rate remains consistent with a modest economic expansion through early 2016.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United States Economic Data</th>
<th>%*</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>+ 0.7</td>
<td>Q4 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Prod.</td>
<td>+ 0.9</td>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Prices</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Producer Prices</td>
<td>+ 0.1</td>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading Indicators</td>
<td>- 0.2</td>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Def. bn S</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*change previous period
DHL facilitates imports into European markets

DHL Freight has introduced a new customs clearance service that makes shipping into the European Union for non-EU companies and their end-customers more convenient. As of now, the service is available for shipments coming into Europe via The Netherlands. Thanks to the automated inbound solution developed by Gerlach, DHL Freight’s customs division, non-EU companies can now sell their products on the European market without having to build up their own infrastructure. Consumers who make purchases online from companies that are based outside the European Union but use DHL Freight’s new service, now get their goods delivered at home instead of having to pick them up at the customs office and pay import tax on-site.

Gebrüder Weiss transports ski lifts to the Caucasus

The international transport and logistics company once again proved its logistics expertise along the former Silk Road by delivering two complete ski lift systems to the skiing region of Bakuriani, Georgia’s winter capital, for Doppelmayr Seilbahnen GmbH. In around 60 truck loads, Gebrüder Weiss transported a total of 1,000 tonnes of ski lift components from the factories of the ski lift specialists in Wolfurt, Austria, and Samara, the Russian industrial capital, to the Caucasus. Georgia is focusing its investments on tourist regions such as Bakuriani and their infrastructure to increase the country’s attractiveness as a holiday destination. Gebrüder Weiss recently also transported a helicopter by Wucher Helicopter from Vorarlberg to a winter holiday destination near Tiflis along the same route, which is being used for heli-skiing in the region.

DLA Piper becomes first global law firm with truly pan-Nordic presence

In February DLA Piper merged with leading Finnish law firm, Peltonen LMR, and integrate more closely with its existing office in Sweden, formerly known as DLA Nordic. As a result, DLA Piper will have three offices (including its existing office in Oslo) and more than 200 lawyers in the region, making it the first global law firm with a truly pan-Nordic presence. This enables the firm to offer clients an unparalleled capability in the Nordics and access to legal services which can meet their needs domestically, regionally and globally. Across the region, the firm has strong industry capability in each of its key sectors.

Schoenherr advises Amundi Real Estate on the purchase of office buildings „Florido Tower“ and „Solaris“ in Vienna

They were sold by German based Union Investment Real Estate GmbH, and are part of the 1 billion Euro „Aqua“ portfolio, comprising 17 office buildings with a total lettable area of 278,000 m² in six Western European countries. With the purchase of the office buildings in Vienna, the deal is said to be one of last year’s largest portfolio transactions, and is now completed. Constructed in 2001 and with a height of 113 meters, the 30 storey Florido Tower offers a 36,000 m² area, and is ranked among Vienna’s highest buildings. The office building „Solaris“ was completed in 2009, accommodating offices and laboratory facilities on 9,000 m². Amundi Real Estate is specialised in developing, structuring and managing real estate funds for private investors, private banks and their distribution partners, institutional investors, companies and real estate experts.

Unisys Wins Contract to Support NASA Langley Research Center’s Simulation and Flight Research Mission

NASA Langley Research Center (LaRC) has awarded a contract to Unisys Corporation to provide software, hardware and systems integration services to support simulation and flight research projects. Under the contract, Unisys will design, test, integrate, operate, maintain and modify systems supporting Langley’s simulation and flight research mission. Unisys services also will support research topics including guidance and control, flight deck human factors, airspace operations, and unmanned aerial systems.

“Unisys has the understanding, expertise and capability to meet constantly changing requirements in a timely and cost efficient manner while also minimizing risks,” said Casey Coleman, group vice president for civilian agencies at Unisys Federal. “This contract award will give us the opportunity to continue our work with NASA, supporting important research in aeronautics and space, including unmanned flight and other initiatives.”
CULTURE

HELLO/GOODBYE
by Peter Souter

March 7th – April 16th
Vienna’s English Theatre
1080 Vienna

British Dramatist’s Peter Souter’s debut play is a spikily fresh romantic comedy with brilliantly sharp dialogue in the tradition of the classic screwball comedy.

Juliet, young, smart, sassy – and just a tad too impulsive – has got herself a fresh start in a new flat after having landed herself in some serious trouble with her boyfriend. But there’s a hitch: amidst the boxes, a strange guy is also moving in – and he won’t leave. He also has keys and a contract for the flat whether she likes it or not. He says her agency has messed up and her flat is actually his flat. As if that’s not enough, the real problem is that, apart from being infuriatingly introverted and pedantic, he’s rather attractive and charming too… Soon the witty bantering commences and sparks start to fly.

WHERE TO INVADE NEXT

Starting February 25th
Votivkino
1090 Vienna

Michael Moore, the creator of Fahrenheit 9/11 and Bowling for Columbine is back with this hilarious and eye-opening movie. Where to Invade Next is an American documentary film in the style of a travelogue. Moore is spending time in countries such as Finland, Italy, France, and Portugal where he experiences those countries’ alternative methods of dealing with social and economic ills experienced in the United States. Turns out the solutions to America’s most entrenched problems already existed in the world - they’re just waiting to be co-opted.

Where to Invade Next is an expansive, rib-tickling, and subversive comedy in which Moore, playing the role of “invader,” visits a host of nations to learn how the U.S. could improve its own prospects.

LUTZ BACHER
More Than This

February 12th - April 3rd
Secession
1010 Vienna

In a career spanning more than four decades, Lutz Bacher has built a highly heterogeneous oeuvre that defies classification. The American artist, who adopted her male pseudonym when she first started out, has produced conceptual work in a variety of media. Bacher’s photographs, sculptural arrangements, videos, sound pieces, and expansive installations incorporate images and objects that are fixed in collective memory and easily retrieved: press photographs of public figures that, copied several times over, begin to lead a strangely aesthetic new life, everyday stuff and detritus from thrift shops she integrates into her installations as objets trouvés and secondhand readymades, or time-worn baseballs, marbles, and sand.

Her appropriations draw on trivial pop culture sources such as dime novels, porn magazines, self-help literature, and paparazzi snapshots, and occasionally include references to art history. The human body, sexuality, power, and violence are key issues in her art, as are our current state of being and the deliberate blurring of the line separating the private from the public sphere.

Lutz Bacher lives and works in New York.
Past Events Gallery

AmCham Talks with Boris Brabatsch, Sales & Business Development, Sodexo Service Solutions Austria
The Global Executive MBA turns 15: an Austrian-American success story

When the first Global Executive MBA alumni graduated in June, 2001, it was one of Austria’s first Executive MBA programs, and MBA alumni were few and far between, both nationally and internationally. Today, the Global Executive MBA is triple-accredited (AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS) and ranks among the world’s top 100 MBA programs.

Exactly 15 years ago, the WU Executive Academy and its partner institution, the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, ushered in a new era in executive education in Austria. What had existed in the United States and in Great Britain for some decades, was finally also part of WU Vienna’s portfolio: the Executive MBA—a practical general-management program designed to allow students to acquire all the relevant management and leadership knowledge and skills without interrupting their careers.

International and interdisciplinary
Since its inception, more than 400 managers from over 45 countries have graduated from the WU Executive Academy’s flagship program. Global Executive MBA alumni hold executive positions across all industries, not only in Central and Eastern Europe but also in other parts of the world:

“I am absolutely delighted with the way the program has developed over the past 15 years. Our alumni are to be found not only in the Singaporean health-care sector, Russian telecommunications companies, Slovak banks, Canadian technology firms and Swiss pharmaceutical companies but also in Austrian businesses that are steeped in tradition and in innovative start-ups,” says Prof. Bodo B. Schlegelmilch, who founded the Global Executive MBA and has been its academic director to this day.

A global leader thanks to 2 degrees, 3 continents and 15 months
„Sustainable success depends on the right mix; this is also true with regard to MBA programs — the overall package must be compelling,” explains Prof. Schlegelmilch, „… and the Global Executive MBA definitely has a lot to offer!“

Thanks to the cooperation with the Carlson School of Management, Global Executive MBA participants are awarded two MBA degrees, an American one and a European one, upon completion of their training. Moreover, they get access to the CEE region’s biggest network of managers, which connects some 2,200 MBA graduates, and join one of America’s leading alumni associations.

The part-time Global Executive MBA has been triple-accredited (AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA) since 2010 and has ranked among the world’s top 50 in the Financial Times Executive MBA ranking.

International residencies provide a 360-degree perspective
Study trips to America (New York and Minneapolis), China (Guangzhou), India (Hyderabad) and Russia (St. Petersburg) have been an integral part of the Executive MBA for many years. Students benefit from these „international residencies” in several ways: In the mornings, they attend lectures; in the afternoons, they visit regional and international companies to gain first-hand knowledge of the unique business and market environments these organizations operate in. Thereafter, participants have an opportunity to exchange views and ideas with top managers.

The Virtual Team Project—a truly demanding experience in its own right
The concluding highlight of the Global Executive MBA is the so-called Virtual Team Project (VTP), during which 120 MBA participants from three leading universities from Europe, Asia and the USA, respectively, work on complex projects in 21 teams. What makes the VTP special is the fact that students from different Executive MBA programs join forces across three continents and time zones.

The most recent graduating class of the Executive MBA added to the program’s alumni group of more than 400 managers worldwide. Today, alumni celebrate their graduation in both Vienna and in Minnesota, USA.

Mikko Katila, bislang Sales Director bei SAS Austria, wird nun als Country-Manager die österreichische Landesgesellschaft leiten.


Thomas Hofbauer übernimmt bei Ingram Micro die Aufgabe des Business Group Manager Advanced Solutions & Speciality Solutions.

Nicolai Padoan ist bei Hilton Österreich künftig als Cluster Director of Business Development für die vier Hotels in Wien und Innsbruck im Einsatz. Er folgt Robert Wagner nach, der innerhalb des Konzerns nach Singapur wechselt.

Ronja Tegtmeier verstärkt das Marketingteam von McDonald’s Österreich. Als Junior Specialist Marketing wird sie sich um die Betreuung der digitalen Kanäle sowie das CRM kümmern.