**Interdisciplinary Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and the Czech Republic**

February 2012 – June 2012

The idea for this Winter and Summer School has arisen through an intense co-operation of Czech and Austrian energy experts (CZ-AT EEG) since 2002. The energy experts from CZ-AT EEG have most of the lectures during the Winter and Summer School.

### The aim and content of the Winter and Summer School

One of the major aims of the CZ-AT EEG is the dissemination of the results of the jointly research projects to assist not only in a better understanding of national and European problems with the energy supply, promotion of renewable energy sources, exchanging information about new technologies, but also contribute in reducing misunderstandings about energy policies in both countries.

Winter and Summer School is a perfect way for students to get to know more about the situation in the field of energy in Austria and the Czech Republic. The Winter School is organized in Graz and the Summer School in Prague. Time between Winter and Summer school will be used to work on bilateral seminar papers, where paired Austrian & Czech students will analyse the situation in their home country and put it together in one paper which will be presented at the Summer School. Thanks to the Winter and Summer School - students will therefore get an experience of bilateral collaboration and improve their presentation skills. The whole Winter and Summer School is taught in English and the final paper is in the same language. 2010 for the second time were published the students paper in one symposium and this step is a high motivation for the students to hand over a paper of good quality. 2012 the students’ final papers will be published as a textbook (at the end of the W/S School) too.

The participating students can be from various universities: University of Graz, University of Technology Graz Technical University Vienna, University of Economics Prague, Czech Technical University in Prague and Charles University in Prague.

The provided courses will be focused on Master students. It is envisaged that the bilateral-collaboration papers will be further developed in diploma theses and dissertations.

An internal website will be created to support the teaching activities and for support the students. This website will only be accessible for participating students to the bilateral school. On the website they will be able to find all relevant information about the courses, including the PowerPoint presentations made by the teaching staff, the topics of seminars from the school participants from the previous year, and the contact details of the course’s assistants and coordinators.

The Winter and Summer School activities will respectively be organised by their hosting university. For the Winter School in Graz Stefan Schleicher will be the main coordinator, and for the Summer School in Prague Jiřina Jílková will be the main coordinator. The topics of the courses and excursions have already been worked on in joint research projects of the CZ-AT Energy Experts Group. The topics of the seminar papers will be given by the corresponding experts of the CZ-AT EEG. They will also be the advisors for the students.

10 students from each country will be selected. They will have studied already at least 2 years at University level, and will come from the Economic and Technical Universities in Prague and Graz. They will be nominated by the project partners and selected based on academic excellence and documented experience with the seminar topics.

The students will have to pay a small contribution to the course, differentiated by country: Austrian students will pay 150 EUR, Czech students 1000 CZK. This contribution will be used to cover daily meals (which are not covered by the budget from AKTION) and refreshments during the lectures, in the evenings, or will be used for the co-financing of other activities.

During the previous Winter and Summer School we succeeded in accrediting this seminar (or course) with the 6 ECTS-points at the University of Economics in Prague and also at the University of Graz. The students will get a certificate for their successful participation in this seminar. They will also get assistance to apply for a scholarship to fund work for a joint master thesis dealing with the topics of the seminar.

**The aim and structure of the Czech-Austrian Energy Expert Group**

The joint Czech-Austrian Energy Expert Group (CZ-AT EEG) group was appointed by both governments at the end of 2002 to establish the so-called “Energy Partnership” mentioned in Chapter III of the “Protocol on the Negotiations between the Czech and the Austrian Governments, led by Prime Minister Zeman and Federal Chancellor Schüssel, with the Participation of Commissioner Verheugen from the EU” signed on December 12, 2000 in Melk, Austria.

The aim of this group is to jointly study the problems of energy supply and consumption and sustainable development in both countries. It consists of a number of energy experts from different Czech and Austrian universities and institutes. The CZ-AT EEG is convening at regular meetings both in Austria and the Czech Republic and is jointly working on energy projects of mutual interest.

Following major CZ-AT EEG activities have already been organized:

* February 2010 and June 2010 “**Interdisciplinary Bilateral Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and the Czech Republic”** was again successfully organized with the support from the Program AKTION.
* In November 2010 will be published second book of research papers: Energy for Sustainable Development vol. 2.
* In May 2009 (16th May) Discussion seminar: “**Implementation of the EU Climate and Energy package**“ was held in Carolinum, Charles University in Prague
* February 2009 and June 2009 “**Interdisciplinary Bilateral Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and the Czech Republic”** was again successfully organized with the support from the Program AKTION.
* In May 2008 (14th May) Discussion seminar: “**Is the climate change opportunity for Europe?**” was held in Carolinum, Charles University in Prague.
* February 2008 and June 2008 “**Interdisciplinary Bilateral Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and the Czech Republic”** was again successfully organized with the support from the Program AKTION. ([www.ieep.cz/projekty/login.php](http://www.ieep.cz/projekty/login.php), both “Ident projektu” and “Heslo projektu”: “V8A”).
* February 2007 and June 2007 “**Interdisciplinary Bilateral Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and the Czech Republic”** was again successfully organized with the support from the Program AKTION. ([www.ieep.cz/projekty/login.php](http://www.ieep.cz/projekty/login.php), both “Ident projektu” and “Heslo projektu”: “V7A”).
* February 2006 and July 2006 **“Interdisciplinary Bilateral Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and the Czech Republic”** ([www.ieep.cz/projekty/login.php](http://www.ieep.cz/projekty/login.php), both “Ident projektu” and “Heslo projektu”: “V6A”).
* In April 2006 (28th April) “Discussion seminar on the experiences with the EU-ETS scheme” was held in Carolinum, Charles University in Prague.
* In March and April 2005 the exhibition “Building for the future” and a symposium with building experts and architects from Austria and the Czech Republic was organized in the exhibition rooms of the Charles University in Prague.
* The final reports of the jointly Research Papers in 2004 are currently being published in a book “Energy for Sustainable Development” by the Charles University. More information about the CZ-AT EEG can be found on [http://www.energy-europe.net](http://www.energy-europe.net/).