

IfGR Flash-News March



Dear Viennese Geographers,

With spring, the Flash News starts anew. The social media has been updated and I had the luck of encountering the faces belonging to the email addresses. It is a joy to work as a news falcon and I look forward to working with you. After months of hibernation, the bundle of news has grown quite big. Therefore, grab yourself a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy the Flash News!

With the news, I brought along a quote from Max Weber in his paper "Wissenschaft als Beruf" (1919), which can remind us that teaching and researching were never easy tasks and how much has changed in regard to diversity and challenges since the days he wrote those words:

"Jeder junge Mann, der sich zum Gelehrten berufen fühlt, muß sich vielmehr klarmachen, daß die Aufgabe, die ihn erwartet, ein Doppelgesicht hat. Er soll qualifiziert sein als Gelehrter nicht nur, sondern auch: als Lehrer. Und beides fällt ganz und gar nicht zusammen."

"Every young man who feels called to be a scholar must realize that the task that awaits him has a double face. He should not only be qualified as a scholar, but also: as a teacher. And the two do absolutely not coincide with each other." [translated] If you have any announcements, please send them to: clara.winkler@univie.ac.at

Table of content:

1. Staff and Guests
 2. Congratulations
 3. Publications
 4. Project Updates
 5. Viennese Geographers in the World
 6. General News
 7. Past Events
 8. Future Events
-

1. Staff and Guests

- **Miriam Lindsberger - student project assistant**

During my Bachelor's degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology, I was able to explore issues of sustainable urban development and was particularly interested in alternative and future-oriented housing concepts. I am currently completing my Masters in Spatial Research and Spatial Planning, focusing on the transformative potential of new urban neighbourhoods, affordable housing and gender planning. I am currently supporting the Urban Studies working group as a student project assistant in the project 'ReCity - An inter- and transdisciplinary approach to revitalizing former small industrial cities in Armenia to enhance their transformative potential towards sustainability'.

- **Svenja Stahlhut - student assistant**

Svenja Stahlhut has worked for many years on project-related activities in the context of co-design and different participation formats in urban areas, which ultimately led her to study geography in Hanover and to complete her Bachelor's degree with a focus on spatial research and spatial planning at the University of Vienna. She is currently completing a Master's degree in Spatial Research and Planning at the Institute of Geography and Regional Research. Svenja's interests lie primarily in the areas of housing or the sharing of things, knowledge or spaces - everything that makes a space fairer for everyone who lives there. She is working as a student assistant in the Urban Studies working group since the beginning of 2025.

- **Micol Sonnino - prae-doc**

Micol Sonnino joined the Urban Studies Working Group as a Prae Doc in March, 2025. Her academic background is a Bachelor's Degree on East Asian Studies at the University of Bologna, followed by a Joint Master's Degree in Sustainable Development (University of Graz, University of Hiroshima). Her work experiences include consultancies for EU Commission funded projects working with mayor's offices in Italy and Colombia. Her research interest lies in exploring the integration of participatory methods for empowering communities to shape urban sustainability transformations.

- **Raphaela Bolter - organizational assistant**

Raphaela joined the ENGAGE working group this February. She will be taking on the role of organizational assistant, overseeing various projects, supporting the education of ENGAGE and providing assistance as needed.

- **Clara Winkler - student assistant**

Clara Winkler has supported the institute's direction since February as a student assistant. She acts as a new contact person for the Flash-News and social media. After obtaining her BA in Social and Cultural Anthropology, she decided to pursue an MA in Regional Research and Regional Planning at the University of Vienna.

2. Congratulations

- **Magdalena Berger**

Magdalena has successfully presented her faculty open PhD presentation (FÖP) in January. In her PhD Project she examines Indigenous Geographies, Gendered Epistemologies and Climate Adaptation of Agro-Pastoralists in Southern Ethiopia. Congratulations! (link to Profile page: <https://geographie.univie.ac.at/en/working-groups/population-geography-and-demography/people/team/magdalena-berger/>)

- **Medina Adulyarat**

Medina successfully presented her doctoral research at the faculty open presentation (FÖP). Medina's research focuses on Aging in Place in the context of

multiple risks including Climate Change in Thailand's South. Congratulation.

- **Alejandra Jiménez Donato**

Alejandra has been awarded the Marietta Blau-Grant to continue her research at Delft University of Technology. Over the next eight months, she will focus on hydrological modeling to gain deeper insights into landslide accelerations in Lower Austria.

3. Publications

- Diniega, R., & Sakdapolrak, P. (2025). Social remittances and the environment in the context of climate change: What do we know? Where do we go? *Climate & Development*, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17565529.2024.2449121>
- Garcia, C., Borderon, M., Sakdapolrak, P., Bunchuay-Peth, S., Sterly, H. & et al. (2025). Unveiling invisible climate im/mobilities: mixed-methods case study of a drought-prone rural area of Kersa, Ethiopia. *Reg Environ Change* 25, 34. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10113-025-02373-1>
- Franz, Y. und Heintel, M. (Hrsg.) (2025): Kooperative Stadt- und Regionalentwicklung, 2. aktualisierte und erweiterte Ausgabe. Wien: facultas. [DOI: 10.36198/9783838563633](https://doi.org/10.36198/9783838563633)
- Treitler, L., & Kounadi, O. (2025). Segmentation of Transaction Prices Submarkets in Vienna, Austria Using Multidimensional Spatiotemporal Change–DBSCAN (MDSTC-DBSCAN). *ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information*, 14(2), 72. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijgi14020072>
- Vallejo-Velázquez, M., & Kounadi, O. (2025). Extracting spatial perception and knowledge via structured digital sketch maps: a systematic literature review. *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*, 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15230406.2024.2434629>

4. Project Updates

EUMA WINTER SCHOOL IN BONN

Participants from ENGAGE: Hannah Fergg, Annika Fröwis, Philipp Marr, Sophia Sternath

From January 6-10, 2025, the University of Bonn hosted the first EUMA Winter School, bringing together experts from 12 countries to discuss multi-hazard risks and disaster management. The program included expert lectures, excursions to the Ahr Valley and BABZ, and a panel discussion on the future of postgraduate education in disaster management. Insights from the event will shape the new EUMA curriculum, launching at the University of Vienna's Postgraduate Center in October 2026.

More information: [UCPKN Web](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

EUMA AT RIMMA 2025

At the RIMMA International Conference on Forecasting, Preparedness, Warning and Response in Bern, Annika Fröwis (EUMA-Project Manager UNIVIE) presented the EUMA Project in a dynamic panel on higher education in crisis management. A highlight of the

event was the field trip to Jungfrauoch, offering valuable insights and networking opportunities.

More information: [LinkedIn](#)

FOURTH SPECIALISED EUMA WORKSHOP

The EUMA Workshop on Technological Hazards and Crisis Management took place in mid-February at IMT Mines Alès, focusing on marine pollution, crisis management in high-risk scenarios, and decision-making through a Serious Game simulation. Experts shared insights on effective response strategies, combining theoretical knowledge with practical training. Annika Fröwis participated as coordinating partner of the EUMA Project in the discussions, contributing to the exchange of expertise within the EUMA network.

More information: UCPKN Web (will follow soon) [LinkedIn](#)

EUMA OUTLOOK

At the German Conference on DRR ("Fachtagung Katastrophenvorsorge"), Annika Fröwis will moderate an online* panel discussion on *Bridging the Gap: Advancing Postgraduate Education in Civil Protection and Disaster Risk Reduction* with leading experts, Prof. David Alexander, Dr. Peter Billing, MSc. Nieves Kautny, and Prof. Caroline McMullan. The session will explore how postgraduate education can better support professionals in disaster risk reduction and civil protection.

More information and registration for participation: [Website](#)

* it is possible for everyone to join, but there is no link for the session yet

The 5th EUMA Specialized Workshop will take place at Dublin City University (April 10–11) and focus on Business Continuity Management. Designed for disaster and emergency management professionals, the workshop will provide insights into strategies for ensuring organizational resilience. Sophia Sternath and Annika Fröwis (ENGAGE) will represent UNIVIE during the workshop and a dedicated project meeting day on-site.

More information: [UCPKN Website](#)

CPT-training with Eijkelkamp

Participants from ENGAGE: Edoardo Carraro, Robert Kanta, Philipp Marr, Benedikt Müller Advancing subsurface investigations is crucial for landslide research. In collaboration with Royal Eijkelkamp, we conducted a field training session on the new Cone Penetration Testing (CPT) device of the [Universität Wien](#).

In the last few days, we focused on a comprehensive understanding of CPT principles and applications and hands-on experience conducting cone penetration tests under real field conditions

This was a great opportunity to bridge theory and practice, improving our ability to characterize subsurface conditions in landslide-prone areas. A big thank you to everyone involved for making this a valuable experience.

NoeDRILL / Deep drilling

After a winter break, the deep drilling continued and was finally completed on Monday, March 17, 2025, with the installation of 40m inclinometer tubes. Robert Kanta and Edoardo Carraro will install the Measurand SAA inclinometer chain on the 21st and connect it to the NoeSLIDE server to obtain data every 5 minutes. Due to the geological conditions, we expect to obtain very informative data that will allow us to create detailed landslide models and take NoeSLIDE long term monitoring to a new level.

PARATUS

Ongoing work explores the interrelation of multi-hazard risks, particularly in the Alps application site. Currently, scenarios are being developed to analyse the potential impacts of blockages on the region. Additionally, various methodologies are being employed to assess the area's susceptibility to landslide processes.

If you'd like to stay updated with the latest developments, sign up for the [PARATUS newsletter](#). For those looking to engage more actively, consider joining the [Disaster Risk Stakeholder Hub](#), an initiative led by PARATUS in collaboration with numerous EU Horizon

projects.

There was also a PARATUS Second Alps Stakeholders Workshop, you can find more infos in the [following video](#).

5. Viennese Geographers in the World

- **Simon Bunchuay-Peth** and **Magdalena Berger** are currently for a field trip in the South Omo Valley (Ethiopia) where they conduct research for the CuHeMo Project focusing on indigenous knowledge and mobile livelihoods in changing climates. See more: <https://www.cuhemo.org/research-sites/>
- In February, **Lucas Barning** travelled to Delhi, India, where he spent a week as a visiting researcher at the [Sustainable Futures Collaborative \(SFC\)](#). Building on networks established during his previous PhD research (2020-2024), his visit focused on strengthening academic collaborations. During his stay, he met with researchers at the University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi to explore opportunities for future research partnerships, academic networks, and educational exchange initiatives.
- The AESOP Young Academics Conference 2025 in Hanover was held March 17th - 20th. **Meike Levin-Keitel** started the conference programme with her keynote speech „Same, same, but different? Planning for sustainable places“. The presentation titled "Accessibility as key criterion for spatial justice" by **Helena Schuch** was part of the conference track on mobility. More information: <https://aesopyaconference2025.de/>

6. General News

- The core facility eSurfLAB has new equipment, welcome the **Eijkelkamp Compact Crawler 200 kN**. This cone penetration testing is suitable for obtaining information about the structure of a subsurface, for example, a slope. In addition to providing strength profiles at different depths (allowing conclusions about density, consistency, etc.), it can also yield information about the maximum penetration depth (solid rock boundary). It will be used to further explore the subsurface conditions at the three sites of the eSurfLAB.
- In the an **episode of KDZ im Dialog**, Siegfried Fritz talks to **Yvonne Franz** and **Martin Heintel** about how administration, politics, science and society can work together to develop sustainable solutions. See [Podcast](#).
- The **11th Webinar of brachflächen "Gestern Industriestandort, heute Leerstand und morgen...?"** was created by the students of the project seminar by Yvonne Franz and Martin Heintel in WS 2024/2025, who who dealt with the revitalization of brownfield sites. Based on the example of a former textile factory in the Waldviertel, the past, the current situation and the future of the site were explored. In addition to the location, the social needs and economic situation of the region were considered. See [more](#).
- Angelika Starkl, participant in the „**Kooperative Stadt- und Regionalentwicklung**“ postgraduate educational program, talks about her personal experiences in a [video interview](#).

7. Past Events

- The **student union of Geography** have had the **Welcome Week** as an array of

events in March with the "Vienna at night" city tour, the "Welcome Day" with guided NIG tours, the "Infostand" at the Campus, the "Games Night", the "Speed friending and TBTS demo", the "Hiking Day" and the "Get-to-know and Spritzerstand". A "Geostammtisch" at the Cafe Kreuzberg followed.

- The publication of the second edition of **"Kooperative Stadt- und Regionalentwicklung"** by **Yvonne Franz and Martin Heintel** was accompanied by a **book presentation** on 12.03.2025 at the newly opened Fachbuchhandlung facultas. The editors talked to the authors and readers at the event. Guests were Andreas Gugumuck (entrepreneur), Malena Haas (Arbeiterkammer Wien), Sonja Rube (USP Projekte GmbH München), Elisabeth Stix (Rosinak & Partner ZT GmbH).
- In the **14th International Lecture on Hazard and Risk** on 26.03.2025, **Stefan Hochrainer-Stigler** introduced to his audience some concepts used in systemic risk research to provide ways forward how to deal with cascading and compound risks, focusing on natural disaster events. The lecture was part of the Circle U. Lecture Series "Natural Hazards, Vulnerability and Disasters" (2025S).

8. Future Events

MARCH

- The **Kinderuni 2025** will take place from 07-18.07.2025 on the campus of the University of Vienna. All interested parties are invited to register workshops, seminars or lectures online by **31.03.2025**. [More information](#).

APRIL

- **Hyperglobusführung - 07.04.2025**
As part of our outreach efforts, the Spatial Data Science and Geocommunication working group regularly holds sessions about our Hyperglobe for educational groups. Hyperglobes offer breathtaking views of the Earth, experiences that are typically reserved for astronauts. During the sessions, we present our visitors with insightful global animations covering a variety of topics, including weather patterns, continental drift, flight movements, volcanic eruptions, climate change, sustainability, and much more.
To broaden our audience, we have two upcoming events planned: In collaboration with VHS Vienna, we will host a "Science Walk" at the Hyperglobe on April 29th (which is already sold out!), and we are also offering a tour open to all Geography students on April 7th (3-4 PM) (already sold out too!). We would greatly appreciate any additional promotion among students to ensure we reach as many interested participants as possible.
- Nomination of outstanding lecture courses for one of the **Teaching Award 2025** until **16.04.2025**. The two award winners will each receive 3.000 euros. [More information](#).
- On Sunday, **27.04.2025**, the faculty is organizing **Planet Earth Day** in cooperation with EGU and Kinderuni for families, pupils, teachers and students; the families of employees are also very welcome. [More information](#).

MAY

- **WISESS Big Picture Event: Mental Health**
Tue, 13.05.2025, 15:00

- **Gender & Diversity Networking Meeting**
19.05.2025, 13:15-15:30

JUNE

- **Circle U. Climate Day**
Do, 05.06.2025, 10:00-18:00, Großer Festsaal
- **Talks & BBQ - Meet the Faculty for Exploration**
Do, 12.06.2025, 16:30 - please save the date!

Impressum

Herausgeber: Institut für Geographie und Regionalforschung

Redaktion: Clara Winkler

| Universitätsstraße 7, 1010 Wien | geographie.univie.ac.at | [Newsletter abbestellen](#)

[Datenschutz](#)