

# 2019 EMEA Regional Meeting

## Vienna

October 11-13, 2019



### Why Vienna?

Vienna is the world's most livable city and our vibrant country committee is excited to share it with Democrats Abroad!

- Early October is a beautiful time here as the trees take on an autumn hue and the local Heurigen, the traditional restaurants attached to wineries, hang out a Buschenschank (wine branch) to announce that the new wines are being served.
- Wien ist anders - Vienna is different! And we want to make sure attendees experience a few of the different spots that make this city so special. The meeting venue and hotel are a convenient eight-minute subway ride from the center of town, making it easy to combine sightseeing and DA sessions.
- We're planning a dinner for Friday night at one of the famous [Heurigen](#) in the vineyards in the hills above Vienna.
- The dedication and enthusiasm of DA Austria's volunteers is well documented and reflects the planning and coordination skills of our caucus and ExComm leaders:
  - In 2016, DAA organized a DPCA fundraising concert with 300 attendees.
  - In 2018, DAA had one of the highest CallHub outreach rate in DA.
  - Our DAA caucuses and groups hold 4 to 6 events per month.
- We've already received commitments from 11 DAA volunteers to help out each day and we'll be teaming up with DA Hungary in order to make this a truly regional meeting.

## Vienna in Detail

### Getting here:

- The Vienna airport (VIE) has many [discount carriers](#).
- There are also trains (ICE), Flixbus, and additional discount flights to Bratislava airport, which is approx. 40 minutes away with train or bus service.
- There is an hourly airport bus that goes directly from the Vienna airport to the venue. It takes 23 minutes and costs €8.

### Staying here:

- We have blocked 20 rooms at the meeting venue, the [Courtyard by Marriott Vienna Prater/Messe](#), a four-star conference hotel on the cutting-edge campus of the Business University and right next to the Prater for a morning run.
  - The rooms are €148 for a double and €126 for a single.
  - Besides a restaurant, lobby with lots of seating areas and bar, it has a 24-hour fitness-center, a spa, and market for late night snacks. Breakfast and all taxes are included.
- Vienna has hundreds of hotels ranging from youth hostels for €48 to luxury accommodations for €480.
- A quick search on Airbnb shows 300+ rentals available for the meeting weekend. Our team will also try to arrange home-stays upon request.
- Wherever you stay, you'll want to be close to the U1 or U2 subway lines which run through the center of town and go directly to the venue.

### Meeting here:

- The venue is a three-minute walk to the U2 subway line, which goes directly into town with its enormous range of restaurants and bars.
- The ground floor conference room for 120 attendees has high ceilings and natural light. A floor-to-ceiling glass wall looks onto a small manmade lake. The room costs €3,460/day, which breaks down to €28/day per person.
- The hotel has a self-serve market in the lobby and can cater our meeting- all day beverages and two snacks for €21.50; lunch for €33. There are also restaurants, a super market, and food trucks next to the hotel and on the university campus. We would help organize Saturday lunch at the nearby Schweizerhaus.

### Getting Around:

- Vienna has a fantastic public transportation system that includes subways, streetcars, and buses. DriveNow, car2go, and Uber are all available. Or rent a public bicycle or scooter - in 14 minutes you'll be in the center of town!

Vienna is not only [the world's most livable city](#) but also one of the safest. We are confident that we have the organizational skills, dedicated volunteers, and level of enthusiasm to make the EMEA Regional Meeting in Vienna a memorable experience!

## Coordinator Details

Bid Coordinator: Jennifer Rakow-Stepper  
E-mail address: [chair@democratsabroad.at](mailto:chair@democratsabroad.at)

Co-Coordinator: Raina Saul  
E-mail address: [r.saul@democratsabroad.at](mailto:r.saul@democratsabroad.at)

Co-Host & Tech/WebEx: DA Hungary, Merrill Oates  
E-mail address: [merrill@demsabroad.eu](mailto:merrill@demsabroad.eu)





## Bid to host the 2019 EMEA Regional Meeting

This two-page questionnaire is the minimum requirement for a Country Committee to bid. Additional documents and information should be included with any bid.

Country Committee: DA Austria

### Coordinator Details

Bid Coordinator: Jennifer Rakow-Stepper  
E-mail address: [chair@democratsabroad.at](mailto:chair@democratsabroad.at)  
Phone number (with country code): +43 6991 108 7981

Will this person also be the main Meeting Planner?  Yes  No

Co-coordinator: Raina Saul  
E-mail address: [r.saul@democratsabroad.at](mailto:r.saul@democratsabroad.at)  
Phone number (with country code): +43 6991 062 9960

Co-Host & Tech/WebEx: DA Hungary, Merrill Oates  
E-mail address: [merrill@demsabroad.eu](mailto:merrill@demsabroad.eu)  
Phone number (with country code): +36 70 314 5055

### Meeting Dates

Proposed meeting dates:  
October 11-13, 2019

### City Details

What city will host the meeting?

Vienna, Austria

DA Hungary will join, providing tech support and volunteers.

Do you have an active chapter or precinct (or key officers) in this city?  Yes  No

Does the bid city have a major international airport?  Yes  No

What other international transport options are available?

The Vienna airport (VIE) has many [discount carriers](#). There are also trains (ICE), Flixbus, and additional discount flights to Bratislava airport, which is approx. 40 minutes away with train or bus service. There is an hourly airport bus that goes directly from the VIE airport to the venue in 23 minutes and costs €8.

Please provide a brief explanation on why this city will meet the needs of an EMEA regional meeting:

Vienna is the [world's most livable city](#) and our vibrant country committee is excited to share it with Democrats Abroad!

Early October is a beautiful time here as the trees take on an autumn hue and the local *Heurigen*, the traditional restaurants attached to wineries, hang out a *Buschenschank* (wine branch) to announce that the new wines are being served.

As the Viennese like to say, *Wien ist Anders* (Vienna is different) and we want to make sure attendees experience a few different spots that make this city so special. That's why for the meeting location we've chosen a modern conference hotel on the cutting edge campus of the Business University next to the Prater park (the Emperor's former hunting grounds) and a convenient eight-minute subway ride to the center of town – the location makes it easy to combine a morning run, sightseeing, and DA sessions.

The dedication and enthusiasm of DA Austria's volunteers is well documented. In 2014, DAA outperformed other CC's in the Global Auction; in 2016, DAA put together a very successful fundraising concert that raised \$2400 for the DPCA through small donations; and in 2018, we had one of the highest call hub outreach of any CC. As you can see on our [website](#), our DAA caucuses and groups hold between 4-6 well attended events per month – this kind of output reflects the planning and coordination skills of our caucus and ExComm leaders.

We are confident that we have the organizational skills, dedicated volunteers, and level of enthusiasm to make the EMEA Regional Meeting in Vienna a memorable experience!

## Volunteers & Workability

Welcome reception: We will organize a welcome reception (DAA's expense) near the hotel and then a dinner location at a typical Austrian restaurant (at participants' expense) most likely at a [Heuriger](#) (traditional wine tavern) in the vineyards.

Vienna has lots of great places bars and restaurants for caucus events and many wonderful venues for a gala event.

*Are volunteers in the bid city willing to help plan and staff the meeting?*                      X Yes    No

We currently have 12 volunteers/per day signed up for: 2 reception, 2-3 WebEx, 1 volunteer & 4 help guides (each day); 2 planners.

## Venue Details

### Venue:

[Courtyard by Marriott Vienna Prater/Messe](#)

Is a modern business hotel with a conference room and potential break out rooms. (see attachment) It has a generous lobby with lots of seating areas, a restaurant, bar, a 24-hour fitness center, spa, and 24-hour market for late night snacks. A complimentary reservation link makes it easy for people to reserve their rooms.

### Rooms:

€148 double, €126 single. Breakfast included.

VAT and taxes included

The hotel will hold 20 rooms/night at this rate until 30 days before the conference.

### Space:

The conference room is for 90-120 attendees. Dimensions: 10.5 x 30 x 4.3 = 319.20m<sup>2</sup>. It has high ceilings and natural light with floor to ceiling glass walls on one side that look onto a small manmade lake. A reception table can be set up in the main lobby.

### Technology:

The conference room will have at least two webex host computers, at least one trained volunteer to serve as moderator (Merrill and/or Brett plus extra trained volunteers), projection/display capabilities, microphones/sound systems set up for mixed online/in-person participation, and a stable wired or wireless internet connection that is not shared with attendees. (See attachment for the list and prices.)

*Are there printing facilities/business center?*

Yes

### Pricing

*An estimate for total costs per day, excluding meals.*

Meeting room: €3,460/full day €5,580 (1.5 days)

Tech: €355/day

(For full details see attachment)

VAT and taxes included

*How many hours are included in a half day or full day booking of the venue?*

Full Day: 08:00 – 17:00 Half Day: 08:00 – 14:00 (full day on Sunday is available)

Does this cost include all audio-visual and internet-access facilities?                      Yes    X No

Partially (See attachment)

### Catering

Can this venue provide coffee breaks and/or meals at lunchtime?  Yes  No  
We have negotiated all day coffee, tea, and waters plus two snacks €21.50/day per person. Lunch €33/pp.

Would it be possible to bring coffee break items and/or lunch in to the venue from outside catering/are there vendors/restaurants nearby?  Yes  No

The hotel has a self-serve market in the lobby. There are also a number of restaurants next to the hotel and on the university campus. We would help organise Saturday lunch at the Schweizerhaus.

*Deposit Details and Due Date:* 100% by 2 months before meeting.

### Transportation

The venue is a three-minute walk to the subway line U2 that goes directly into the center in eight minutes.

[Subway tickets](#) cost €2.40 per trip, There are unlimited tourist tickets for 24, 48, and 72 hours that cost between €8 and €17.10. The subway runs 24 hours a day on the weekends.

Vienna has a fantastic public transportation system that includes subways, streetcars, and buses. There are also public bicycles and scooters to rent. With all these options people should not need to rent a car however, there are both “drive now” and “car 2 go” car sharing available. Vienna also has Uber.

The Airport bus (Vienna Airport Lines) goes hourly from the Vienna airport to the hotel area in 23 minutes and costs €8.

### Dinners and Reception

*Is there space in the venue that would work for fundraiser dinners? Please describe.*

The ground floor conference room is available as a gala venue. As described above, it has high ceilings and a glass wall overlooking a small lake. (see attachment for prices)

*If there isn't a reception/dinner venue within the space, please include 2 to 3 examples of fundraising venue options.*

Vienna has lots of spaces for Gala dinners for every budget from hotels to museums including the [Welt Museum](#), and [Museums Quartier](#) to name just two.

### Security Concerns

Are there any security concerns of which the DPCA should be aware?  Yes  No