

Research Barometer

Research and innovation have a long tradition in Austria

Inventions from Austria, from the circuit board and battery to the turbine and sewing machine, have decisively shaped the world of science and technology. This innovative strength continues unabated. Austria ranks eighth compared to other EU countries of the European Innovation Scoreboard and thus belongs to the group of "strong innovators". Austria is even rated first for intellectual property. No other country registers as many patents, trademarks, and designs in relation to its GDP.

Leading researcher from the USA for Salzburg



Pirmin Schlicke has been conducting research at the University of Salzburg as an APART-USA Fellow since January 2026. The internationally renowned biomathematician develops predictive models for the early detection of metastases and personalised therapies. He cites international visibility, a strong research infrastructure and excellent conditions for research and teaching as the location's key advantages.

Source: [ResearchGate Profile of Pirmin Schlicke](#)

20 to 30 instead of hundreds of attempts



Researchers at the University of Graz are combining electrochemistry with AI to develop new active ingredients for medicines more quickly, safely and sustainably. Thanks to Bayesian optimisation, the number of experiments required has been reduced from hundreds to between 20 and 30.

Source: [Electrons and AI: New approaches to the search for new medicines](#)

7-year research program against lung cancer



MedUni Graz and Boehringer Ingelheim have opened a new Christian Doppler Laboratory. The programme, funded to the tune of 3.2 million euros, is researching new treatments for non-small cell lung cancer and investigating how tumour cells can be made more recognisable to the immune system.

Source: [Med Uni Graz and Boehringer Ingelheim Open New Christian Doppler Research Laboratory](#)

Europe's unique SAF research facility



The Technical University of Leoben and OMV operate a research facility for sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) that is unique in Europe. It realistically models production processes and, through process simulation and machine learning, supports the development of efficient, scalable SAF technologies.

Source: [OMV supports Europe's unique research infrastructure for sustainable aviation fuels at the Technical University of Leoben](#)

2 Spinoffs among Europe's best



In the highly competitive research funding programme for market transfer, EIC Transition, 40 out of 611 projects were selected – including two Austrian spinoffs: dawn bio develops models for early embryonic development and implantation, whilst Ecolyte develops sustainable components for redox flow batteries.

Source: [FFG: Double success for Austrian spin-offs in the EIC](#)

Detecting GPS interference from orbit



GATE Space, a spinoff from TU Wien, is developing BEACONSAT, a satellite designed to systematically detect and analyse interference with GPS and Galileo signals from space. The project provides data for navigation in aviation and other fields where precision is critical.

Source: [BEACONSAT aims to make attacks on navigation signals from space visible](#)

The ABA Research Barometer of the Austrian Business Agency (ABA) provides an overview of current issues and projects in Austria as a research location.

For further information:
investinaustria.at/en/why-austria/research-location