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Environmental Sciences  
Research Network

# Environmental Sciences Research Network

<http://umwelt.univie.ac.at/en>



# Tackling environmental challenges

The Environmental Sciences Research Network (ESRN, or *Forschungsverbund Umwelt* in German) represents the diverse areas of environmental research at the University of Vienna. The network consists of more than 100 scientists from the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities, as well as from law and economics. We bring together disciplinary excellence and different perspectives in order to tackle today's environmental challenges and to advance environmental research in all directions.

## What we do, at a glance:

- We bring together existing research potential and educational resources.
- We provide a link between the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities.
- We serve as a platform for exchanging ideas and matching research interests.
- We stimulate new projects and promote funding opportunities.
- We communicate environmental research results to the general public.
- We organize academic and public events.

*“In addition to disciplinary expertise, exchange across scientific disciplines is needed in order to foster a responsible approach to the environment, to provide sustainable solutions and to advise society on relevant decisions.”*

Thilo Hofmann, Head of ESRN



# Extending across disciplines

The ESRN was established by the Rectorate in 2014, in response to an initiative by four faculties of the University of Vienna. Six faculties and another research network of the University of Vienna now actively participate in the ESRN.

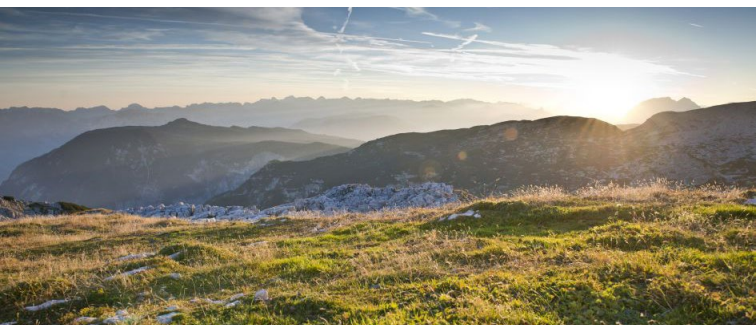
## **The ESRN Steering Committee has representatives from:**

- The Faculty of Earth Sciences, Geography and Astronomy
- The Faculty of Life Sciences
- The Faculty of Chemistry
- The Faculty of Physics
- The Faculty of Social Sciences
- The Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies
- The Research Network “Chemistry meets Microbiology”

ESRN scientists come from 11 of the 15 faculties at the University of Vienna.

*“Environmental challenges have become increasingly complex and today often impact all areas of life, i. e. the environment, societies and economies. Interdisciplinary exchange and cooperation to address this complexity is often a challenge, but also presents great opportunities.”*

Gerhard J. Herndl, Deputy Head of ESRN



# Promoting the next generation of experts

Environmental experts – both in research and in practice – are today facing high expectations. Their expertise must be based on the latest research findings and technologies. ESRN members are actively involved in teaching environmental studies at the University of Vienna and in conveying relevant skills. The ESRN also aims to promote environmental studies within the context of its activities and to inspire young students to exchange ideas with other scientists.

## **Environmental Studies at the University of Vienna:**

- Master's programme in Environmental Sciences (since 2012, in English, 4 semesters)
- Doctoral programme in Environmental Sciences (since 2009)
- Various master's programmes dealing with environmental topics and a postgraduate course in Risk Prevention and Disaster Management (since 2015)



### **Are you a scientist and interested in joining us?**

The ESRN is open to all researchers at the University of Vienna.

### **Are you interested in receiving research news?**

The ESRN aims to regularly disseminate recent research results and news stories and invites you to sign on to our mailing list.

### **Are you interested in receiving information on public events organised by the ESRN?**

The ESRN has started a series of public discussions entitled *Umwelt im Gespräch* (discussions on the environment) held in cooperation with the Natural History Museum Vienna, and there will be more events to come.

### **Would you like to get involved and support our efforts?**

The ESRN is open to new partners that share our objectives of promoting environmental sciences and disseminating research results to the general public.

[umwelt@univie.ac.at](mailto:umwelt@univie.ac.at)



## **Environmental Sciences Research Network of the University of Vienna**

### **Management**

Thilo Hofmann (Head)

University of Vienna

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Department of Environmental Geosciences

Gerhard J. Herndl (Deputy Head)

University of Vienna

Faculty of Life Sciences

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Vienna, 2017