

Interdisciplinary Winter (Spring) and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and the Czech Republic 2022

Final Report

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Aim and content of the Winter (Spring) and Summer School

Winter and Summer School is organized by the Czech-Austrian Energy Expert Group (CZ-AT EEG). This group of energy experts from academic sector from both countries was established in 2002 by the Austrian and Czech Governments to jointly study the issues of energy systems in both countries. The Czech-Austrian Energy Expert Group focuses on bilateral cooperation of experts from academia, but also from private and public sector (such as ministries, local governments, professional chambers etc.) in the field of energy economics and energy policy in both countries.

Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and Czech Republic is organized by the Czech-Austrian Energy Expert Group since 2006. After last two years affected by COVID-19 (in years 2020 and 2021 the Winter and Summer School were organized as online events), this year was organized in a regular way (in person event). The only change, unlike previous years, was that, the first part of the course was organized in March/April (previous years it was organized in February). This was caused by the actual epidemic situation (COVID-19). In February 2022 the epidemiological situation was still bad and it was not possible to organize the Winter school in person. From this reason the organizers decided to wait until the COVID situation calm down.

The Winter (Spring) and Summer School was formally organized by Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem and Vienna University of Technology with significant support of colleagues from Czech Technical University in Prague.

The Winter and Summer School on Energy Systems in Austria and Czech Republic is designed for 20 students interested in topics related to energy policy, energy economics, renewable energy sources etc. The participating Czech and Austrian students created bilateral groups (CZ-AT pairs) and during the time between the Spring and Summer school, they worked on their bilateral seminar papers. Seminar papers were presented during the summer part of the School (June 2022 in Vienna) and evaluated by the supervisors (see Annex 4).

Students

At the beginning started 10 Czech and 10 Austrian students. The students came from 4 different universities (Czech Technical University, Škoda Auto University, Jan Evangelista Purkyně University, Technical University Vienna). The mix of students from various universities provides heterogeneous approaches to the energy issues within their seminar papers. All the students sent to the organizers an application form with the personal information and experiences in the energy and economics field (application form can be seen in Annex 1 of this document). The list of participants (meaning all students, lecturers and organization team) can be seen in Annex 2. However, at the end, only 9 Czech and 10 Austrian students successfully graduated the Winter and Summer School.

Organization and program of the Winter (Spring) and Summer School 2022

The whole project was proposed and carried out by Amela Ajanovic from Vienna University of Technology, Austria and Jiřina Jílková from Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic in cooperation with Reinhard Haas from Vienna University of Technology and Jaroslav Knápek from Czech Technical University in Prague.

The program and all the activities were organized and administrated by the teams of the home universities. Jiří Louda (on behalf of Jiřina Jílková - UJEP), Jaroslav Knápek and Patrik

Šimůnek (CTU) were the coordinators of the Winter (Spring) School in Prague (March 27 – April 1). Amela Ajanovic and Frank Radosits in cooperation with Reinhard Haas were the coordinators of the Summer School in Vienna (June 19-24). The programme of the Winter (Spring) and Summer School 2022 can be found in Annex 3.

Unfortunately, prof. Jiřina Jílková, one of the founder of the Winter and Summer School (in the year 2006) and regular lecturer of the School died during the Summer school in Vienna (20th June 2022). The whole event was marked by this sad event, however the programme of the Summer School continued according the planned schedule. From this reason Jiří Louda took over the implementation of the project after the death of prof. Jílková.

Except of lectures, several excursions were organized (Small Hydro Power Plant, Biogas Power Plant, High Voltage Laboratory) during the Winter (Spring) School. Moreover, students created bilateral teams (one CZ + one AT student) to work on common seminar paper. The general aim of all seminar paper topics was to analyse the current energy situation in both countries, find up-to-date data and compare it (also on the EU level). Under the supervision of Amela Ajanovic, Reinhard Haas, Jaroslav Knápek and Jiřina Jílková students wrote together ca 20 pages of scientific texts on respective topic. The seminar papers were presented during the Summer School in Vienna, and the supervisors gave the student a final feedback to finalize the papers. The list of all seminar papers presented during the Summer School can be found in Annex 4. Also during the Summer School were organized several interesting excursions (Waste Incineration Plant, Plus Energy Plus Buildings).

All seminar papers, students' presentations of the papers, as well as the presentations of the lecturers are available online on websites of the Czech-Austrian Energy Expert Group (<http://www.energy-europe.org/>).

All students who graduated from summer school became a special certificate and 6 ECTS points.

Financial report

Before the Winter (Spring) School, the contribution from Austrian students (150 EUR/student) and contribution from Czech students (1000 CZK/student) was collected. During the winter (spring) week in the Czech Republic, the Czech amount was totally spent for daily meals (for the Austrian and Czech participants) and refreshment during the lectures which was not covered by the AKTION budget. Each student received a confirmation of his/her contribution delivery. The overview of expenses (with comments) during the Winter (Spring) School in Prague is in the Financial Report.

We guarantee that there was no overlapping of the financing from AKTION and this extra support was absolutely necessary to realize this successful project. We thank to Czech Embassy in Vienna for arranging the accommodation for Czech students during the Summer school in Vienna also for this year which brought an absolutely significant help and savings to the budget. The table below shows the total costs spent this year.



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