



# Europe.USA.3.0

Werte.Interessen.Perspektiven  
Values.Interests.Perspectives

31. Mai bis 2. Juni 2017 | Schloss Seggau, Leibnitz  
31 May – 2 June 2017 | Seggau Castle, Leibnitz, Austria

Forum für politische, wissenschaftliche, kulturelle, wirtschaftliche und soziale Fragen eines neuen Europas  
Forum for political, academic, cultural, economic and social aspects of a new Europe

GEIST & GEGENWART

Pfingstdialog Steiermark 2017 [www.geistundgegenwart.at](http://www.geistundgegenwart.at)

## Europe.USA.3.0

Values. Interests. Perspectives

May 31<sup>st</sup> till June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 | Seggau Castle, Leibnitz

The event is hosted by the Styrian Government and the Diocese of Graz-Seckau and organised in cooperation with Club Alpbach Styria.

### The Whitsun Dialogues

Since 2005, the “Geist & Gegenwart” Whitsun Dialogues have been taking place biennially at Seggau Castle. We reflect on challenges and problems concerning Europe and contribute to an enduring dialogue about the future with explanations and publications. Through the six events to date, we have succeeded in establishing the Whitsun Dialogue as an institutionalised platform for fundamental debate that is fruitful, interdisciplinary and international, all set in the Styrian border region at the intersection of four cultural spheres in this EU future region.

For more information go to:  
[www.geistundgegenwart.at](http://www.geistundgegenwart.at)



Impressions of past Whitsun Dialogues (© Thomas Raggam, Peter Ramsbacher)

### General theme 2017: Europe.USA.3.0

Seventy years ago, US Secretary of State George C. Marshall initiated a plan for the economic reconstruction of Europe’s destroyed countries. Since then, the political and economic relations between the US and Europe have become closer than ever. Based on this backdrop, the 7<sup>th</sup> Whitsun Dialogue “Geist & Gegenwart” is dedicated to the theme of “Europe.USA.3.0”.

What is the relationship between the USA and the EU and its individual member states? What perspectives and interests are there with regard to the arenas of world politics – from the Middle East to the Ukraine/Russia to the Pacific rim? Where do Europe and the US stand with regard to their economies and innovative power? What is the role of the market power of companies such as Google and Facebook and what might Europe expect from the new US-Administration?

These and more burning questions regarding common values as well as differing interpretations and interests will be discussed by renowned personalities from the worlds of science and business at the Whitsun Dialogue in Seggau.

#### Publications

Each of the “Geist & Gegenwart” Whitsun Dialogues has been accompanied by a publication by Wieser-Verlag publishers. In this publication all speakers, as well as personalities from the realms of politics, science, economics, religion and culture, reflect on questions relating to the general theme.

### Speakers

Amongst the numerous speakers we have the pleasure of welcoming:

- **John L. Allen, jr.** (US journalist at CNN & NYT, expert on the Vatican)
- **Erhard Busek** (former Vice-Chancellor, honorary President of European Forum Alpbach)
- **Wolfgang F. Danspeckgruber** (Director of Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination at Princeton University)
- **Fritz Fekete** (Pennsylvania State Education Association, Pittsburgh)
- **Franz Stefan Gady** (Senior Fellow at the EastWest Institute)
- **Alfred Gusenbauer** (former Federal Chancellor, entrepreneur)
- **Daniel S. Hamilton** (Director of the Center for Transatlantic Relations at Johns Hopkins University – SAIS)
- **Bernhard Kettemann** (Austrian-American Society)
- **Jeff McLaughlin** (Thompson Rivers University)
- **Roberta Maierhofer** (Head of the Center for Inter-American Studies at University of Graz)
- **Josef Mantl** (communications entrepreneur)
- **Eva Nowotny** (former Austrian ambassador to the USA)
- **Marc R. Pacheco** (US-State senator and president pro tempore of Massachusetts Senate)
- **Wolfgang Petritsch** (President Austrian Marshall Plan Fund)
- **Manfred Prisching** (Austrian sociologist)
- **Martin Rauchbauer** (co-director, Open Austria, Silicon Valley Office)
- **Klement Tockner** (President of the Austrian Science Fund – FWF)
- **Hannelore Veit** (ORF correspondent in Washington D.C.)



## Programme

### Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017

10:00 – 18:00 Seminars for scholarship holders

### Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

10:00 – 17:00 Seminars for scholarship holders

18:00 Opening Whitsun Dialogue 2017

Keynote and inputs on the general topic

20:30 Reception by the federal state of Styria

### Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

09:00 Forum “70 years Marshall Plan”

11:00 Forum politics

14:30 Insieme groups on the topics:

- Politics & Law
- Economics & Social Affairs
- Digitalization & Social Media
- Science & Innovation
- Religion

17:00 Forum economics

19:00 Literary-culinary evening

### Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

09:00 Keynote

10:30 Forum Generale in the plenary

12:30 Conclusions and closing words

As of February 2017 – subject to modifications.

## Participation

**Be part of an interdisciplinary and international exchange at the highest level. Participating in the “Geist & Gegenwart” Whitsun Dialogue offers insights and perspectives, first-hand knowledge, exchange and the formation of networks.**

**Seize the opportunity to discuss matters with interesting speakers and thinkers from Europe and the USA and enter an informal exchange of ideas in the inspiring atmosphere of Seggau Castle.**

## Scholarship programme

This year too, we would like once again to offer young people from Europe and the USA the opportunity to participate in the Whitsun Dialogue by means of a scholarship programme. This offer goes to young and interested people under 35.

## Young professionals

With the “Geist & Gegenwart” Whitsun Dialogues, we would particularly also like to address young professionals because, for the next generations of opinion-leaders and leading personalities, transatlantic relations will be of paramount importance.

## Participation

You can register for the entire event or for individual days.

3-day pass (Wed – Fri)	€ 480,-
Day pass Wed, 31/05/2017	€ 150,-
Day pass Thu, 01/06/2017	€ 350,-
Day pass Fri, 02/06/2017	€ 180,-

Meals are included in the day passes.

Reduced tickets (50%) for students aged up to 30 and young graduates up to 40.

With the purchase of a conference pass you also support the scholarship programme.

Registration at [www.geistundgegenwart.at](http://www.geistundgegenwart.at)

## Scholarship programme

The scholarship includes participation fee, meals and accommodation, as well as sometimes also an allowance for travel expenses. For all the information about applying for a scholarship, go to [www.pfingstdialog-steiermark.at](http://www.pfingstdialog-steiermark.at)

## Young professionals

For people aged up to 40 who are interested and already working, we have a limited number of reduced day passes. Should you be interested, please contact us at [manuel.neubauer@geistundgegenwart.at](mailto:manuel.neubauer@geistundgegenwart.at)

## Become a sponsoring partner

The Whitsun Dialogue would not be possible without support from sponsors and other institutions. Through your support, you make a valuable contribution to an enduring inter-disciplinary dialogue. Please contact us at [herwig.hoesele@geistundgegenwart.at](mailto:herwig.hoesele@geistundgegenwart.at)

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#### Kontakt / Contact

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Eine Veranstaltung des Landes Steiermark in Zusammenarbeit mit der  
Diözese Graz-Seckau und dem Club Alpbach Steiermark  
The event is hosted by the Styrian Government and the Diocese of Graz-Seckau  
and organised in cooperation with Club Alpbach Styria.

