

Rising voices – social science interventions on controversial topics

Celebrating the sowi:doc Awards 2020 and 2021 and the first two years of the Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences



The sowi:doc Awards and the Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences

Each year, the Faculty of Social Sciences awards the **sowi:doc Awards** to three doctoral graduates. The Award winners receive EUR 1,500 each for their outstanding research contributions in the framework of their doctoral thesis. The Award aims at motivating doctoral graduates to pursue a career in academia. An interdisciplinary expert committee, appointed by the head of the Faculty, is responsible for making the final award decision. With the establishment of the Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences, the sowi:doc Awards that the Faculty has established in 2018 have been linked to the Doctoral School.

The establishment of the **Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences (ViDSS)** has been part of a university-wide initiative of providing structured doctoral education in many different disciplines. At the Faculty of Social Sciences, the establishment of the doctoral school was led by a faculty-wide task force comprising representatives of all disciplines and a student representative. Between 2019 and 2020, the task force developed the profile and the governance structure of the doctoral school and designed activities and funding programmes for doctoral candidates in the social sciences. In October 2020, the ViDSS was launched.

The ViDSS aims at:

- attracting ambitious and highly qualified doctoral candidates in the social sciences,
- increasing the exchange of experiences among doctoral candidates and supervisors within and across departments,
- enhancing the doctoral candidates' international experiences,
- increasing the visibility of doctoral candidates and their research projects and
- improving completion rates.

In addition to a range of activities and funding possibilities for students, the ViDSS regularly organises onboarding workshops as well as networking and information events for supervisors.

Programme

17:00 Welcome address

Jean-Robert Tyran

Vice Rector for Research and International Affairs

Hajo Boomgaarden

Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences

17:15 Two years Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences

Sophie Lecheler

Speaker of the Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences

17:30 Panel discussion: Rising voices – social science interventions on controversial topics

Anna Durnová

Professor at the Department of Sociology

Denise Hruby

Journalist and National Geographic Explorer, Vienna

Agnieszka Pasieka

Elise Richter Research Fellow at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology

Christoph Reinprecht

Vice-Dean for Teaching, Faculty of Social Sciences

Moderator: Markus Wagner

Vice-Dean for Career Development and International Affairs, Faculty of Social Sciences

18:30 Award ceremony: sowi:doc awards 2020 and 2021

19:00 Small reception

Please register for the event via the website of the Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences (**vds-sosci.univie.ac.at/rising-voices**) no later than 30 May 2022. The event will be held in accordance with the COVID-19 rules for holding events at the University of Vienna.



The Faculty

The Faculty of Social Sciences was established as an independent organisational unit in 2004 and is one of the largest faculties of the University of Vienna. The Faculty is committed to the principle of combining research and teaching. Research activities cover a broad array of topics and include both basic and applied research. The Faculty is a place of tertiary and continuing education, giving students the opportunity to specialise in a wide range of disciplines and thematic areas. Students of the Faculty of Social Sciences study in bachelor's, master's and doctoral programmes in the fields of political science, social and cultural anthropology, journalism and communication studies and sociology. In addition, the Faculty offers a master's programme in gender studies, as well as master's and doctoral programmes in the fields of nursing science, development studies, science and technology studies and demography.

Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences (ViDSS)

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