

# Association of Austrian Enologists

(Vereinigung Österreichischer  
Önologen und Weinforscher (VÖstÖF))



## Organisation:

The Association of Austrian Enologists and Wine Researcher (VÖstÖF) is a young society which was found in March 2004. Thanks to the help of many colleagues mainly from France, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland and Germany we managed to be very soon, on May, 9<sup>th</sup> 2005, accepted as official member of the Union Internationale des Œnologues (UIŒ).

According to the rules of UIŒ the VÖstÖF is an independent, neutral, undenominational society which has public interest without pursuit of profit.

The main objective of the VÖstÖF is to support the common, economic and scientific concerns of its members. Additionally it promotes formation and research in Austria, especially with the Federal College and Research Centre for Viticulture in Klosterneuburg and its alumni association a close cooperation exists.

Despite its short existence the VÖstÖF is a quite well developed society with already around 150 members, who work in many fields of the Austrian wine business. The president of the Austrian wine growers association is the most prominent member, the majority are owners of a family winery, other members are working in the field of wine science, education or advising.

In 2007 the managing committee was re-elected for another four years and has now following composition:

President	Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Reinhard EDER
Manager	Dipl.-Ing. Heinz FRISCHENGRUBER
Vice Manager	Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Hermann PEYERL
Treasurer	Dipl.-Ing. Harald SCHEIBLHOFER
Secretary	Dipl.-Ing. Andreas SCHREINER
Delegate of alumni of Klosterneuburg	Dipl.-Ing. Josef PLEIL

Two accountants, Dipl.-Ing. Direktor Manfred WINKLER and Dipl.-Ing. Josef GLATT, MBA were also elected.

For the crucial activities of the association a working group has been installed with following chairmen:

Viticulture	Doc. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Ferdinand REGNER
Ecological Production	Dipl.-Ing. Victoria LOIMER
Technology	Dipl.-Ing. Robert STEIDL
Chemistry, Microbiology	Mag. Dr. Erich WALLNER
Management Marketing	Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Hermann PEYERL

## Activities:

Beside the annual national general assembly and the attendance at the international general assemblies various events were organised. The biggest public attendance was achieved with a symposium about "Bio-wine production" in St. Pölten in winter 2007, where more than 250 people were listening to nine presentations of national and international experts. The symposium about "Grüner Veltliner", which was held in summer 2006 in Poysdorf with about 200 listeners and eight lectures was also a big

success. In cooperation with the alumni association of the Federal College, Klosterneuburg, very impressive excursions to the wine countries Slovenija, Hungaria and Australia were offered. One scope of function of the VÖstÖF is to nominate well trained wine tasters for international wine competitions like: Vinalis-Paris, Vinitaly-Verona, Vino,Ljubljana, Mundus Vini-Neustadt, Vin Agora-Hungary, Mondial du Pinot-Sierre, Mondial du Rose-Cannes and some others. For the, national wine competition “Austrian Wine Challenge (awc)”, which is organised by private, VÖstÖF offers technical support and attends at the final degustation. As a new sign of identity we have selected a logo last years, which was found within a logo-competition for young artist. The first three places got cash prizes. Furthermore a homepage [www.oenologe.at](http://www.oenologe.at) was created.

### **Wine country Austria:**

With an average production of 250 mill litre wine per year Austria comprises around 1 % of the world wine production. The surface of approximately 60.000 ha vineyards is cultivated by around 25.000 producers, from which only 6.000 have a bottle filling winery while the rest are grape producers. With around 70 % white wine dominates against red wine, with “Grüner Veltliner” is the most important cultivar with approximately 36% of production. Further important white wine cultivars are “Welschriesling”, “Rheinriesling”, “Pinot blanc”, “Sauvignon blanc”, “Müller Thurgau” and “Chardonnay”. The surface of red wine has doubled within the last 20 years with the autochthonous cultivar “Zweigelt” being now number one (approx. 10 %), followed by “Blaufränkisch”, “Blauer Portugieser” and “Cabernet Sauvignon“. The wine growing areas are in the east of the country with “Weinviertel” as the biggest (approx. 17.000 ha) and “Wachau” as the most prominent region.

The wine consumption in Austria is more or less equal to the production, however, despite the production the consumption is half white and half red wine, so that white wine has to be exported (mainly to Germany, USA, Benelux, Switzerland) and red wine has to be imported (approx. 80 % from Italy). The per capita consumption has stabilized at a level of approximately 32 litre within the last 10 years. Big progress has been achieved in the field of quality wine production within the last 20 years, so that nowadays approximately two thirds of the production are quality wines. A very important aspect of Austrian vineyard management is ecological and sustainable production, as a consequence almost 90 % of vineyards are integrated or ecological cultivated. Direct selling points and wine tourism have a long tradition in Austria and got new impulses with investments in modern wineries and presentation rooms in the last years.

If you want to get further information about the „Vereinigung Österreichischer Önologen und Weinforscher (VÖstÖF)“ or you need some help or advice please feel free to contact Dr. Reinhard EDER (Tel. ++43/2243/37910-223, Fax: ++43/2243/26705 respectively e-mail: [Reinhard.EDER@weinobst.at](mailto:Reinhard.EDER@weinobst.at)) from Klosterneuburg.



*Photo 1: Dr. Reinhard EDER, President of the Austrian Association of Enologists with Director DI Karl VOGL, Head of the Federal College and Research Institute for Viticulture and Pomology and the plaquette of the UICE.*



*Photo 2: Members of the Association of Austrian Enologists at the “Grüner Veltliner” symposium in Poysdorf*