MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY EUROPE CONFERENCE VIENNA

SEPT 16-19 2025

HEALTHMATTERS





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Welcome to Vienna!

The entire Medical Anthropology Europe (MAE) conference team is excited to welcome you to Vienna for four days of exchange, engagement and collective thinking on contemporary redefinitions of health and wellbeing.

It has been exactly a decade since the last MAE conference took place in Sussex on the theme of "Anthropology and Global Health". The world has changed since then, and medical anthropology with it. In post-pandemic times of deep political and moral crises that profoundly affect the health and well-being of people and communities in very different ways, we wish to open a space of critical reflections and supportive interactions in Vienna, to understand how health and well-being are imagined, cared for or neglected in different parts of the world.

The ongoing genocide in Gaza, with an unprecedented destruction of healthcare institutions and seizure of Palestinian life, the curtailing of reproductive and bodily rights in many parts of the world and continuous ecological destruction affect many of us deeply and unequally.

This has also important consequences for medical anthropology, its topics, foci and methods. In such "dark times", as Hannah Arendt once wrote, it is ever more important to discuss what constitutes them and how they can be altered, not least to create "a bit of humanness".

Can medical anthropology contribute to his effort, and how? "However much we are affected by the things of the world, however deeply they may stir and stimulate us, they become human for us only when we can discuss them with our fellows", so Arendt.

With this conference, we wish to foster care-ful discussions so as to further critical understandings of the possibilities and impossibilities of health and well-being today, and to reflect on the role of medical anthropology in the world. Together, we hope to create an engaging space of encounters, debate, collegial critique and friendship.

Be welcomed to Vienna, we are much looking forward to sharing time and thought with you!

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Getting to the Congress

From Vienna International Airport:

- ÖBB The S7 and the REX7 leave approx. every half hour from/to different stations in Vienna (Wien Mitte/Landstraße, Praterstern, etc). One way € 4,50. Tickets can be bought online or at the ticket machines.
- CAT (City Airport Train) The slightly faster connection between the airport and Wien Mitte/Landstraße. One way € 14,90 / Roundtrip € 24,90.

Our MAE Congress will take place at the **Neues Institutsgebäude** (New Institute Building, NIG) at **University of Vienna**, in the centre of Vienna. It can be reached from the U-Bahn station **Schottentor**. The U-Bahn is Vienna's metro system. This station is on the purple U2 line.

Getting around Vienna

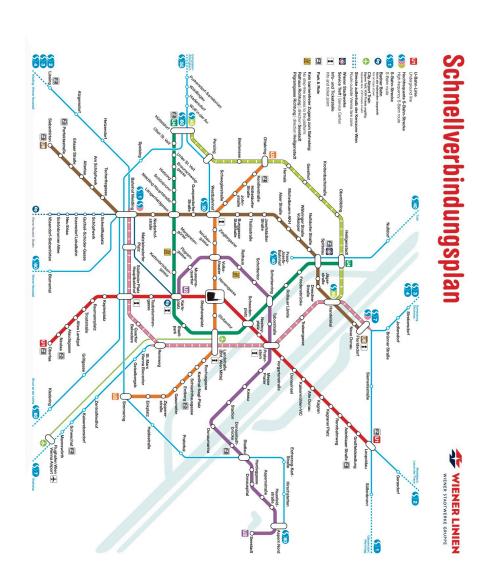
While Vienna is a great city for walking, it also has an **excellent (and cheap) public transportation system** (ÖPNV) consisting of **metro** (U-Bahn), **tram** (Bim) and **bus**.

We recommend the WienMobil app for iOS and Android. Tickets can also be bought at ticket machines in metro stations and on some trams, available as single, 24-, 48- and 72-hour or 7-day tickets.

Make sure to validate before starting your journey. There are blue ticket validation machines at the entrances to metro stations. In trams and buses, tickets are validated in the vehicle itself.

Wiener Linien carries out regular ticket inspections on public transport and in metro exit areas. Keep hold of your valid ticket until you reach your destination.

- You can also rent a bike via the App Nextbike
 register here.
- The ride-hailing apps Bolt and Uber are also available in Vienna.



Also available online on the Wiener Linien website.

General Info: Conference

Locations

Main Conference Building:

New Institute Building (NIG): 1., Universitätsstraße 7

Opening Ceremony:

Vienna University Campus: 9., Spitalgasse 2, Hof 2

Welcome Party:

Freiherz, 9., Alser Straße, Campus 4/Hof 1

Closing Party:

The Popp, 2., Prater 72

Registration Desk

The Registration Desk will open on Tuesday 2:00 p.m. on the ground floor of the NIG, and is open every following day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Badge Pickup

You can pick up your name tag/lanyard at the registration desk. Please return your lanyard at the end, so we can re-use them. Thank you!

WI-FI

Eduroam is available in all university buildings, you will find your login details in your welcome bag. The City of Vienna also provides <u>free public Wi-Fi</u> in selected areas.

Updates

Updates during the conference will be shared via

- e-mail to all registered attendees,
- physical posters in the hallways, and
- the WhatsApp group.



Contacts

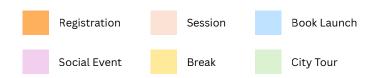
The contact points during the conference are the students wearing orange T-shirts, members of the organizational team identified by a red button on their lanyards, as well as the conference email (mae.ksa@univie.ac.at) and the conference phone number (+43 6811 0689891).

Map



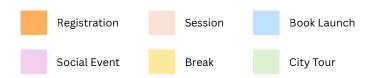
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Timetable



	TUE, 16.09.2025	WED, 17.09.2025		THURS, 18.09.2025		FRI, 19.09.2025	
09.00-09.30							
09.30-10.00		Slot 1		Slot 1		Slot 1	
10.00-10.30							
10.30-11.00		Coffee Break		Coffee Break		Coffee Break	
11.00-11.30							
11.30-12.00		Slot 2		Slot 2	Tour of	Slot 2	Feminist
12.00-12.30					Narrenturm		Walks through Vienna
12.30-13.00		Lunch Break		Lunch Break		Lunch Break	vienna
13.00-13.30		Lunch Break		Editori Break		Editori Break	
13.30-14.00		Slot 3	Smells like Wien Spirit	Slot 3	Vienna and Its Colonial Legacy	Slot 3	Tour of the
14.00-14.30							Jewish Museum
14.30-15.00	14-18 Registration						
15.00-15.30		Coffee Break		Coffee Break		Coffee Break	

Timetable



	TUE, 16.09.2025	WED, 17.	WED, 17.09.2025 THURS, 18.09.2025		FRI, 19.09.2025			
15.30-16.00			Karl- Marx-Hof					
16.00-16.30	14-18 Registration	Slot 4	Revisited	Slot 4		Slot 4		
16.30-17.00								
17.00-17.30		Book Launches 4-		Book Launches 4-		Book Launches 4-		
17.30-18.00	Opening Event	0-5	Hauntings of Healing and Harm at Steinhof	0-4 & 4-0-5		0-5		
18.00-18.30				and Harm	18.15-	Mental Health and		
18.30-19.00		Plenary HS1		19.45 Plenary	the City			
19.00-19.30				HS1				
19.30-20.00	Reception Event							
20.00-20.30				Film Night 4-0-6		Closing R	Closing Reception	
20.30-21.00								
21.00-21.30								

Accessibility

We are committed to ensuring the accessibility of this conference for all attendees and encourage everyone to please follow **accessibility guidelines** to make **presentations and participation** as inclusive as possible.

Let us know about any needs/requests:

giorgio.brocco@univie.ac.at

For **assistance during the conference**, you can also come to **the registration desk**.

Full guidelines are available on our <u>website</u>, and printed copies will be available at the registration desk.

- All conference venues are fully **wheelchair accessible** and **appropriately equipped**. If any areas are inaccessible, we will clearly indicate this in pre-conference communications.
- The wheelchair accessible entrance to the NIG is on the back of the building (Liebiggasse). There is a wheelchair accessible lift inside through that entrance.

- Wheelchair accessible bathrooms are in rooms C020D (ground floor, left from the wheelchair accessible entrance Liebiggasse) and on the 2nd (C229), 4th (C403), and 6th (C602B) floors. Detailed infos can be found in the accessibility guidelines.
- Speech-to-text interpreters will be present at all three **plenary evening events**.
- To protect those of us with invisible diseases, we encourage all participants to wear masks indoors to reduce health risks for others. Free masks are available at the registration desk. Conveners will also be asked to keep windows open whenever possible, to support good ventilation.

Ensuring accessibility supports equal participation for all colleagues and benefits the broader academic community.

Thank you for helping us make this a welcoming space for all!

Quiet Space

Room 3-0-1 - HS 3C (3rd floor) of the NIG (Bildungswissenschaften) is designated as a **calm space** for attendees to take a break and recharge before returning to congress activities.

The space is intended for quiet individual use, to rest, eat, or simply enjoy a moment without talking. Please respect others by keeping conversation and device use to a minimum.

Nursing Space

Room A405 (4th floor) is open from **8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.** as a designated nursing room. It includes a couch, offers privacy, and our institute kitchen and a bathroom are just around the corner.

Prayer Room

Room C402 (4th floor) is open from **8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.** as a designated multi-faith and reflection space. It offers privacy and enough space for prayer. Prayer mats will be provided.

Food Recommendations

Lunch/dinner options within walking distance from NIG:

€: 5-10 €

- NINO Kebap Falafel (9., Universitätsstraße 4)
- Asala Halal Food (8., Alser Straße 21)
- Kostas (8., Alser Straße 37)
- Wiener Deewan (9., Liechtensteinstraße 10)
- Alles Wurscht (1., Börseplatz 1)
- Feine Sichuan Küche (9., Währinger Straße 18)

€€: 10-25 €

- Mittendrin (9., Währinger Straße 19)
- <u>Ra'mien go</u> (9., Kolingasse 4)
- Weltcafé (9., Schwarzspanierstraße 15)
- <u>Café Stein</u> (9. Währinger Straße 6-8)
- Aspic (9., Garnisongasse 10)
- Som Kitchen (9., Währinger Straße 9)
- <u>UMI Poke Bowls</u> (9., Garnisongasse 1)
- Only Noodle (8., Alser Straße 19/5)
- <u>Ramen Makotoya</u> (1., Reichsratstraße 11)
- Treu am Platzl (8., Piaristengasse 52)

€€€: >25 €

- Wildling (8., Laudongasse 8)
- Fratelli Valentino (9., Alser Straße 36)

General Info: Vienna

For the most part, Vienna is a calm, friendly and interesting city to visit, and we are excited to show it to you!

Some things are useful to know in advance:

- The <u>official city map</u> shows all available public services.
- Tap water in Vienna is drinkable. There are numerous public drinking water stations around the city and you can refill your bottle at every tap in our venues. If you are interested to know more about water in Vienna, you can also download an audio guide (DE/ENG/IT) here.

- Stores close early: during the week at 7 or 8 p.m., on Saturdays between 5 and 6. Slightly longer opened are supermarkets at train stations, e.g. Spar at the main train station or Billa at Franz-Josefs-Bahnhof and Praterstern.
- What to bring: two-pronged adaptors if your device is not from the EU. Paying with card is not possible everywhere, so make sure to have cash on you.
- **Tipping**: In cafés in restaurants, tips of 5-10% are common and expected.
- Vienna is generally a very safe city. However,
 Vienna's city centre area is bustling with
 people, cyclists, cars, trams and, every once in
 a while, the odd horse carriage. Make sure you
 pay attention before you cross any lanes or
 else you might get run over, rang out of the
 way, or be scolded in deep and indecipherable
 Austrian dialect.

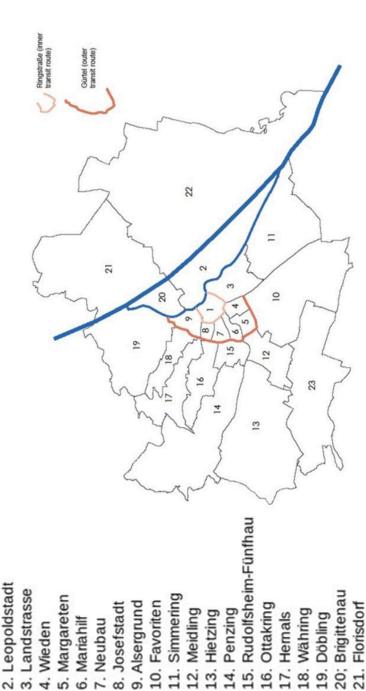
- **On that note**: the Viennese are known for their directness or, as some would say, grumpyness, the infamous Viennese *Grant*... On p. 22 we provide you with a few words that might be helpful if you want to join the rants!:)
- Lastly, try to also spend time in some of **Vienna's outer districts** (10.-23.), where a lot of daily Vienna life happens!

Vienna Layout

Vienna is made up of 23 districts, each with its own characteristics. If you look at Vienna's street signs, you can quickly find out which district you are in.

The districts spiral out like a snail shell, starting from the 1., the "Inner City", separated from the rest by the "Ring Road".

The "Gürtel", literally the "Belt", describes the 13.1 km long, U-shaped outer ring. While the Ring Road encircles the very centre of the city, the Gürtel encompasses the inner city districts (1.–9.) and follows the route of the former outer fortifications of the city.



15. 16.

14.

18. 19. 20;

Innere Stadt

21

Grafik: Astrid Krisch

Donaustadt

21.

Liesing

Language

The official language in Austria is German. Many people also speak English.

Some Viennese words or phrases you might hear:

- "leiwand": cool, great, nice
- "ur": can be used as an emphasis in front of an adjective (e.g. "ur leiwand")
- "G'spritzter" (white Spritz): the famous summer drink – white wine with soda/Seltzer
- "gemma": Let's go!
- "Bussi baba": common way of saying goodbye –
 "Bussi" means kiss/peck and "Baba" means Bye.

And the famous Wiener *Grant* can sound something like this:

- "Oida" (= Alter, lit. "Old one"): A true allrounder, this word can be used as an exclamation to signal anger, surprise, excitement or, in fact anything else.
- "heast" (= Hörst du/ Hör zu, lit. "Listen!"):
- "deppat": stupid, silly
- "sudern": to rant, complain, grumble

Museums

Vienna is home of around 300 museums. If you want to get an overview of what's on during your time here (museums, but also concerts, theatre or dance), we recommend examining the programme provided by the weekly newspaper Der Falter (for German-speakers) or the website Wien-Info (for English-speakers).

There are a number of museums on topics related to medicine, health and well-being, three of which are within walking distance of the conference venue:

- <u>Pathological-anatomical collection in the "Narrenturm"</u> (9., Spitalgasse 2)
- Josephinum (9., Währinger Straße 25)
- <u>Sigmund Freud Museum</u> (9., Berggasse 19)

Several museums and galleries offer free entry. You can find a full list <u>here</u> and a selection below:

- Wien Museum (4., Karlsplatz 8): the permanent exhibition of the city's history. The museum was recently re-designed and currently runs the special exhibition "Reinforced Concrete: Anatomy of a Metropolis". It also has a café with a nice view of the Karlsplatz.
- MUSA (1., Felderstraße 6-8): small museum with focus on contemporary Austrian art, just around the corner of the conference venue.
- <u>Kunsthalle Wien</u> (4., Treitlstraße 2 and 7., Museumsplatz 1): two exhibition spaces for contemporary art; pay as you can on Thursdays from 5-8pm.

Coffee Houses

Vienna is famous for its Coffee House culture, an UNESCO intangible cultural heritage since 2011. Out of many, here are some favourites. Please beware that some traditional Viennese cafés only take cash and can come with waiters who personify Wiener *Grant*, see p. 22:

- <u>Café Bräunerhof</u> (1., Stallburggasse 2: old, dusty charm, free music on Sat & Sun)
- <u>Kleines Café</u> (1., Franziskanerplatz 3: cozy)
- <u>Café Prückel</u> (1., Stubenring 24: 50s grandeur)
- <u>Café Jelinek</u> (6., Otto-Bauer-Gasse 5: unpolished, quirky)
- <u>Café Ritter</u> (6., Mariahilfer Straße 73: traditional, great apple strudel)
- <u>Café Sperl</u> (6., Gumpendorfer Straße 11: *elegant*, *haunted*)
- <u>Café Kriemhild</u> (15., Markgraf-Rüdiger-Straße 14: 70s vibes, pool tables)

City Escapes

If you need a break from the city and/or would like to enjoy a bird's eye perspective, we recommend taking a walk through the **vineyards** in Grinzing or Nussdorf, in the North of Vienna, and stopping by at one of the many **Heuriger** along the way.

Heuriger refers to a typical wine tavern as well as to "this year's wine." Most Heuriger also offer food.

Those motivated to go on longer walks/hikes can explore the various "city hiking paths" – for instance, hiking path no.1 or no. 2 (both easily combined with a visit to a Heurigen).

In case the weather is still warm and you brought your swimming suit, you can also enjoy the many free swimming opportunities Vienna has to offer in the Danube – for instance at Romawiese, Kaiserwasser or on the Donauinsel close to the U2 station "Donaustadtbrücke".

Emergency Numbers

Facility	Phone	Service hours
Fire brigade	122	24 hrs a day
Ambulance service	144	24 hrs a day
General Practitioners' Out-of-hours service	141	weekdays: 7 pm to 7 am weekends: 7 pm (Friday) to 7 am (Monday)
Police	133	24 hrs a day
European emergency number	112	24 hrs a day

Emergency Service for Deaf People

Deaf people can contact the fire brigade, police or ambulance via a special emergency text service: by sending a fax or SMS message to Vienna number +43 800 133 133, or an E-mail to **gehoerlosennotruf@polizei.gv.at**