

# School-based Campaign “Science and Democracy are part of our DNA”

Austria

[www.dnaustria.at](http://www.dnaustria.at)

## DESCRIPTION

Since 2023, a new campaign has been running in schools to strengthen trust in science and democracy: “Science and Democracy are part of our DNA” (*Wissenschaft und Demokratie sind Teil unserer DNA*).

The campaign aims to reach as many people as possible and to **encourage active engagement with scientific topics**. Science and research form the foundation of a democratic society, are core elements of the country, and serve as the driving force for future development.

Among the initiatives:

### **PTS (Polytechnical Schools) Science week 2024:**

- Kick-off event with the “Science Busters!”
- School visits of Minister Polaschek, Federal Minister for Education, Science and Research
- 55 online-workshops, 22 speakers, 401 participating classes
- Numerous school internal activities and events

**Science meets School:** as part of the initiative, the so called “Science ambassadors” provide insights into their daily work, share their professional experiences, and talk about their successful careers in science.

Around 450 persons participate in this initiative, all highly committed to making science and research understandable and accessible.

The **PTS Science Week 2023** was **evaluated** and showed a **significant boost in pupils’ motivation**.