

Immigration Requirements & Health Care

General Immigration Regulations

Austria is a member of the European Union (EU) and the Schengen Area; therefore, entry is free for EU citizens. If you are not an EU citizen, you will need a Schengen Visa to enter. Additionally, some countries have special bilateral agreements with Austria, which may exempt their citizens from needing a visa. To see the list of countries whose citizens require a visa for Austria, please visit [Visumpflichtige Länder \(bmi.gv.at\)](https://bmi.gv.at)

UN Laissez-Passer

Holders of a UN Laissez-Passer (UNLP) do not require a visa to enter Austria. You may enter with your UNLP, as Austria is home to a United Nations Office in Vienna (UNOV). Please ensure that your UNLP is valid for at least 3 months from your intended entry date. The UNLP allows for a stay of up to 90 days in Austria.

Visa Application Procedure

If you are admitted to one of our courses and require a visa, we will support your visa application by providing an official invitation letter and embassy letter, which should be submitted along with the other documents required for your visa application.

However, the responsibility to manage the visa application process and meet all necessary requirements rests solely with the participant.

Please note the following:

- **Processing Time:** Schengen Visa processing commonly takes between 4 to 8 weeks and in some cases even more. It is recommended that you start your visa application as soon as possible. At some embassies, appointments for visa submission are extremely limited, thus we encourage you to book your appointment immediately after receiving an invitation to attend the course.
- **Visa Submission Location:** Austria has limited foreign representations, and you may need to travel to a neighboring country to submit your visa application. Visa applications must be made at an Austrian Embassy or another Schengen Embassy, which is accredited by Austria for this purpose in the country of your residence or your country of citizenship.
- **Embassy Selection:** You cannot freely choose the embassy where you submit your visa application; it must be submitted at the embassy of the country from where you are a citizen or where you have a residence permit. For a list of Austrian Embassies and accredited embassies, please visit [Austrian Embassies](#). Moreover, you can search for the responsible Embassy through the following link : [Search for Austrian Representations](#)
- **Transit Considerations:** Even if you hold a special passport that exempts you from needing a visa for Austria, this does not grant you permission to transit through other Schengen countries or airports. Please plan your travel accordingly.

Health Care – Insurance Coverage

If you are not a holder of the European Health Insurance Card (E-Card), please ensure you are covered by a comprehensive medical insurance during your stay in Austria. This is also a requirement for your visa application.

Important Notes

- The ACP (Austrian Centre for Peace) is a non-governmental institution and does not have authority over visa processing or immigration regulations.
- It is your responsibility (or that of your sponsoring organization) to process your visa application in a timely manner to ensure your participation in the course.
- The ACP will not be liable for any costs arising from an unsuccessful visa application, such as cancellation fees for flight bookings, etc.