

An Unforgettable Experience in Vienna: The ERNST Training School 2024

From April 22 to 24, 2024, the ERNST Training School of the COST ERNST Network took place in Vienna. The European Researchers' Network Working on Second Victims, where Dr. Eva Potura participated as a trainer for the second time, visited the Austrian capital. Healthcare professionals from 17 different countries traveled to Vienna to participate in this significant event. Under the expert guidance of Prof. Dr. Reinhard Strametz and Dr. Jose Mira, the focus was on the phenomenon of Second Victims.

Day 1: Arrival and Introduction

Upon arrival, the participants' anticipation was palpable. The program began with a warm welcome and an introduction to the topic. Prof. Dr. Strametz and Dr. Mira explained the fundamental concepts and scientific findings on the Second Victim phenomenon, providing a solid foundation for the intensive and educational days ahead.

Following these initial learning sessions, the attendees, together with the present trainers, worked on the first case study and prepared for a presentation the following day. The first day concluded with a visit to the simulation center of the WiGeV and the Medical University of Vienna at the Floridsdorf Clinic.

Day 2: Intensive Group Work, Additional Case Studies, and Peer Roundtable

The second day was dedicated to practical application. After presenting the first case study, the work on additional case studies continued, requiring participants to apply their knowledge practically. In small groups, they worked on further case studies. These practice-oriented exercises allowed participants to directly apply what they had learned and discuss challenges and solutions.

Another program highlight was a session led by the Second Victim association. Dr. Barbara Sitter, Stephanie Niederhuber, and Moritz Kirchweger hosted a peer roundtable, where they discussed their experiences with association work with the participants.

Day 3: Introduction of Second Victim Association and Final Group Work

On the third day, the Second Victim association had the chance to introduce itself through a presentation by the association's founder, Dr. Eva Potura. She impressively showcased the work of the association and presented the Austrian prevalence studies SeVID A1 and A2, conducted in collaboration with Dr. Reinhard Strametz's research team.

She also provided valuable tips for establishing support organizations and practical feedback on the opportunities and challenges of increasing the association's outreach and awareness work. Participants gained insights into how to build similar structures in their own countries and organizations.

With concluding remarks from Dr. Jose Mira and Prof. Dr. Reinhard Strametz, the ERNST Training School successfully ended after three days.

The guests were taken care of over the three days by the Second Victim association, with support from representatives of the Platform Patient Safety, the Floridsdorf Clinic of the Vienna Health Association (WiGeV), and the scientific staff of the WiHelp Institute in

Wiesbaden. This support significantly contributed to the event's success. A big thank you to everyone involved.

Culinary Discoveries and City Tour

After the intensive learning sessions, participants relaxed with culinary discoveries at various Heurigen, enjoying Viennese hospitality. Another highlight was the impressive tour through Vienna's historic city center, giving participants a deeper understanding of the history and culture of this fascinating city.

Conclusion: The ERNST Training School Was a Complete Success

We, as the Second Victim association, are extremely pleased to have taken on the support of this European project. The ERNST Training School 2024 was a complete success, and we look forward to a reunion with all participants in an equally educational environment. The days in Vienna were not only a valuable learning experience but also an opportunity to forge new connections and strengthen existing networks.