

Democratic Challenges in Slovakia



Excursion to Bratislava: 26-27 October 2018

Are you interested in the current government crisis and its consequences in Slovakia and looking for a dialogue with other open-minded and politically interested persons as well as Austrian and Slovak civil society representatives?

Participate at our events in Bratislava and extend your knowledge on complex political processes!

The events include a....

- Workshop with political and academic experts
- Visit of the National Council
- Meeting with Austrian civil society representatives

Description & Programme

Ponto, a Vienna-based grassroots think tank on European and foreign policy which is part of the foraus global-network¹, provides an opportunity to learn more about the recent political developments in Slovakia during an excursion to Bratislava. The event is going to take place on 26 and 27 October 2018 and is aimed at students and young professionals living in Vienna and Bratislava. The participants will have the chance to discuss Slovak politics with renowned experts as well as Austrian and Slovak civil society representatives.

26 October

- **Workshop on current political developments in Slovakia**
focus on freedom of media and rule of law
 - **Part I (10:00)**
 - Introductory notes by young scholars on media freedom and rule of law – Max Steuer (Comenius University in Bratislava), Pavol Baboš (Comenius University in Bratislava)
 - Discussion in small thematic groups
 - Group A: Freedom of media
 - Group B: Rule of law
 - **Part II (12:00)**
 - Short presentation of key arguments and question of the two groups
 - Open discussion with experts – Grigorij Mesežnikov (Institute for Public Affaris – IVO), Ondrej Podstupka (SME.sk) etc.
- **Visit to the National Council of the Slovak Republic (14:30)**

27 October

- **Open forum for think tankers and social activists (11:00)**
This forum provides young civil society representatives from Slovakia and Austria with an opportunity to exchange their views on current social and political trends in both countries in an informal way.

¹ <https://www.foraus.ch/foraus-global/>

Terms & Requirements for Participation

There are no specific pre-requirements for the applicants, besides motivation to learn and to do some preparatory reading (approx. 20-30page) as well as sufficient knowledge of English, as the working language of the workshop and the other events is English.

The application forms need to be submitted by 20 October 2018 to osteuropa@pontothinktank.org.

Application Form

This application form has to be submitted to
osteuropa@pontothinktank.org by 20 October 2018.

Name (as written in your passport)	
Nationality	
Passport/ID number (only needed for the Visit of the National Council)	
Date and Place of Birth (only needed for the Visit of the National Council)	
Address	
Phone	
E-Mail	
Occupation	
Participation at	<input type="checkbox"/> Workshop on Current Political Developments
	<input type="checkbox"/> Visit to the National Council
	<input type="checkbox"/> Open forum for think tankers and social activists
Motivation for Participation (Write 2-3 sentences why you would like to participate in this excursion.)	
Date, Signature	