

First cohort, 2012

428 alumni*

85 teachers**
currently in
classrooms for
their initial 2-year
commitment

Based on Teach For Austria's example and advocacy, the ministry of education has developed a career pathway for others from non-traditional backgrounds to enter teaching

73% of alumni
still work in the
education field



Teach For Austria

Contributing to a more open system

As **Teach For Austria** currently fields 85 teachers and has 428 alumni.

Research funded by the European Commission demonstrated that Teach For Austria teachers studied from 2016-2018 improved in their competencies of self-efficacy and pedagogical knowledge more than teachers from traditional teaching pathways. The researchers associated Teach For Austria's innovative approach to recruitment, selection, initial teacher preparation, and ongoing opportunities for professional leadership development as key factors that influence these results.¹

Simultaneously, Teach For Austria teachers are having a positive impact on their students' long-term educational trajectories: in the 2022-23 school year, 85% of their 8th and 9th students enrolled in further education pathways, outstripping typical rates in a context

where dropout rates, particularly among the most vulnerable students, are generally much higher.

Almost three quarters of Teach For Austria's alumni still work in the education field, 56% in teaching and others in nonprofits, policy, and other roles that impact the system. Among the alumni are a number of Austria's most recognized social entrepreneurs. Four alumni started Vienna Hobby Lobby, which offers after school programs in education, sports, and the arts in four locations in Vienna to address the fact that Austria's schools close very early and only rarely offer extracurricular activities to advance students' holistic development. A team of three alumni started More Than One Perspective in the height of the refugee crisis to help integrate Syrian and Afghan refugees into Austria's working world.





Another started Everyone Codes to support refugees and others to learn to code and place them in software development jobs.

While these alumni have worked to fill gaps in the public system, others are working to strengthen the system itself. Several alumni are working in senior roles in various organizations the Ministry of Education contracts to drive new initiatives, and alumni have led the development of an initiative that catalyzes innovation in education, as well as the effort to digitize learning in the wake of COVID. Alumni are working in the ministry of education in roles in diversity, science transfer, and teacher education, and the ministry now sees Teach For Austria as a pipeline for senior staff, given their positive experiences with those who are already there.

There is still progress to be made, which Teach For Austria anticipates seeing in the years ahead. Alumni haven't yet assumed school principalships, given it took several

years to figure out how to navigate the licensure challenges, but they anticipate seeing their first alumni school leaders before long. Based on Teach For Austria's example and advocacy, the Ministry has developed a career pathway for others from non-traditional backgrounds to enter teaching. The Ministry and Teach For Austria are collaborating closely to ensure the quality of this program, and the Ministry has engaged Teach For Austria to co-design a 1-2 week introduction for all incoming new teachers. Reflecting on what's changed in Austrian education over the last decade, Teach For Austria's founder Walter Emberger reflected, "The system is more open now." This openness and dynamism is in part due to the fresh perspectives and energy Teach For Austria teachers and alumni—and the organization itself—are bringing to classrooms, the system, and the social enterprise space.

1 Abs, et al. (2019), "Recruiting and Preparing Teachers through