



His Excellency

Martin Sajdik

Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary Permanent
Representative of Austria to the
United Nations

His Excellency Martin Sajdik became President of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations on 14 January 2014. Ambassador Sajdik, presented his credentials on 4 January 2012.

Prior to his appointment to New York, he served as Austria's ambassador to the People's Republic of China, Mongolia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. From 2003 until 2007, Ambassador Sajdik was Director General for Economic Affairs and European Integration. Between postings at the Austrian Embassy in Moscow (1980-1985 and 1989-1991) and with the Executive Secretariat of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe in Vienna (1986-1987), he held executive positions at a major Austrian construction company and an Austrian Bank in Moscow.

"Austria is not only one of the richest countries in the world in terms of GDP, it also plays an important role in the European Union. Austria has so far twice taken over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 1998 and 2006. We are honored to host Ambassador Sajdik at UVU and hear his insights about the Euro and the European Union. UVU students will benefit tremendously from our guest's expertise"

**Associate Vice President
for UVU International
Affairs & Diplomacy,
Rusty Butler**

Earlier in his career, he served at the Permanent Representation of Austria to the United Nations Office at Geneva. Ambassador Sajdik studied law, international law and international relations in Vienna, Moscow and Bologna, and received his doctorate degree in law in Vienna in 1971. He is the author of several books on the "enlargement process of the EU", published in Austria, Germany, USA and most recently in China.

February 2015

WHO WE ARE

The Office of International Affairs & Diplomacy actively supports UVU's global engagement efforts by advancing UVU's presence and prestige in the International community; helping UVU students become globally competent graduates; promoting cultural literacy and diversity both on campus and in the community.

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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT

Austria

THE FLAG OF Austria



MEANING

Three equal horizontal bands of red (top), white, and red; the flag design is certainly one of the oldest if not the oldest national banners in the world; according to tradition, in 1191, following a fierce battle in the Third Crusade, Duke Leopold V of Austria's white tunic became completely blood-spattered; upon removal of his wide belt or sash, a white band was revealed; the red-white-red color combination was subsequently adopted as his banner.

Information gathered from: wiki-media.org, the-world-factbook, eupedia.com, everyculture.com, Austria.info, austrianzimmers.com

- Austria's independence officially came into force on July 27, 1955 after the signature of the Austrian Independence Treaty in Vienna among the allied occupying powers (France, UK, US, and the Soviet Union).
- Austria's natural Resources includes oil, coal, lignite, timber, iron ore, copper, zinc, antimony, magnesite, tungsten, graphite, salt, hydropower.
- The world's largest emerald (2860 carat) is displayed in the Imperial Treasury of the Hofburg (Imperial Palace) in Vienna.
- Austria's average unemployment rate from 1960 to 2013 is 4.59%, the second lowest in the European Union after Luxembourg.
- 62% of Austria's total land area is covered by the Austrian Alps .



- Dürnstein a small town on the Danube River in the Krems-Land district, is one of the most visited tourist destinations in the Wachau region and also a well-known wine growing area. (above)
- St. Stephen's Cathedral is Austria's most visited attraction. For more than 700 years it has stood watch the city.
- Austria entered the EU Economic and Monetary Union in 1999.
- Austria is the only continental EU country that is not a member of NATO.



- The most popular sports are association football, alpine skiing and ice hockey.
- Austria is famous for its festivals and there are actually over 200 every year, including the Bregenz festival, Saalfelden Jazz Festival, the Vienna Jazz Festival, SalzburgerLand, and more.
- The sewing machine was invented in 1818 by Josef Madersperger, an Austrian.
- The oldest zoological garden in the world is the Tiergarten Schönbrunn in Vienna, founded in 1752.
- The Museum of Military History located in Vienna, Austria is claimed to be the oldest and largest purpose-built military history museum in the world.
- Schnitzel is a famous traditional, very thin breaded and deep fried, Austrian dish made from veal.

