

HOW LONG HAS WAHLKABINE.AT BEEN AROUND?

wahlkabine.at first started before the 2002 parliamentary elections in Austria. Since then, it has been available for various elections: for the parliaments of Austria's nine federal provinces as well as several parliamentary elections, and elections to the European parliament. In 2008, wahlkabine.at turned bilingual (wahlkabine.it/ cabina-elettorale.it) as a service for Italian voters in the autonomous province of South Tyrol (Südtirol). In 2009, wahlkabine.at will also be available in English for the elections to the European Parliament.

Since 2002, 66 million questions have been answered online and more than 2.3 million users have finished the various quizzes to find out more about where they stand.

WHY WAHLKABINE.AT?

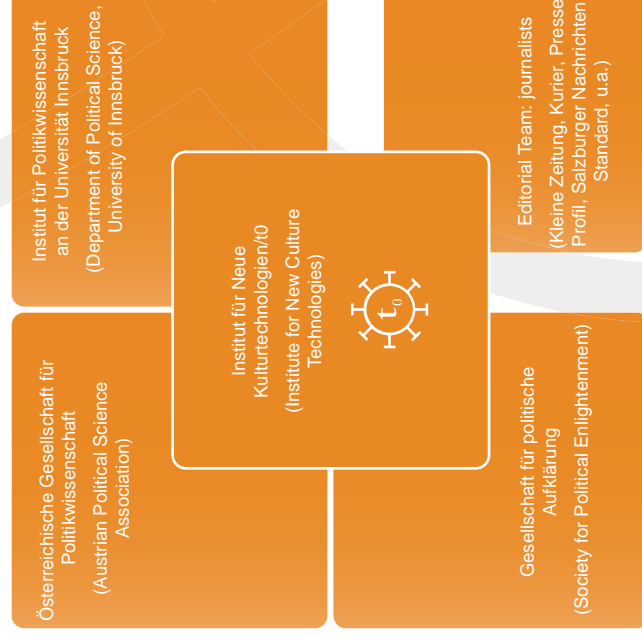
wahlkabine.at does not intend to tell users how and who to vote.

Rather, it aims to raise awareness for political issues and offers guidance concerning party policies on current issues. In our popular media, the focus is frequently on a candidate's personality instead of their policies, so that increasing numbers of voters have difficulty determining a party's position.

wahlkabine.at is a tool which serves as a basis for political discussion and which provides additional information (party comments, comprehensive glossary of issues mentioned in the questions) for interested users.

WHO MAKES WAHLKABINE.AT?

wahlkabine.at is a project carried out by several Austrian organisations in the field of political education, mainly the Institute for New Culture Technologies in cooperation with the Austrian Political Science Association, the Society for Political Enlightenment as well as the Department of Political Science, University of Innsbruck.



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WHAT IS WAHLKABINE.AT?

wahlkabine.at (“polling booth”) serves as a quick guideline through party opinions and helps to compare your political views with those of the parties in full anonymity.

wahlkabine.at is an online tool for political education which is independent from party affiliations or interest groups.

Users fill in a questionnaire of approximately 25 questions. These answers are then compared with those given by the parties contesting the upcoming elections. At the end of the quiz, users can access a detailed survey of all questions and answers as well as comments given by the parties. In addition, a glossary provides background information about topical issues.

HOW DOES WAHLKABINE.AT WORK?

- 1) A pool of questions is developed by a team of experts on politics, history, and journalism. This team consists of representatives of partner organizations, as well as journalists from various Austrian newspapers and news magazines.
- 2) A list of about 40 questions is sent to political parties (executive boards) which are already represented in the Austrian parliament, in the parliaments of Austria’s nine federal provinces, or the European Parliament. The parties answer the questions and also have the opportunity to comment on their choices. All comments can later be accessed on our homepage.
- 3) 25 questions from fields as diverse as economics, education, energy, environment, family, food, migration, religion, security, social welfare, traffic, or women’s rights, and art and culture are selected to be included in our online version.

- 4) wahlkabine.at goes online 6 weeks before the elections.



- 5) Users answer about 25 questions by clicking “yes” (agree), “no” (disagree) or “no answer” (neutral). In addition, users should indicate whether they consider the issue in question important or not. The online tool then calculates whether party’s answers correspond most closely with your own. The other parties are ranked accordingly and in descending order.

