Interning at the Austrian Parliament

Magdalena Burtscher
Internships that didn’t work out:

Austrian Institute for International Affairs
GIZ Berlin
Goethe Institute Madrid
Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Matadero Madrid (Cultural Center)
Austrian Embassy in Madrid
Heinrich Böll Foundation in Brussels
Internship at the Austrian Parliament

- June – July 2017
- NEOS
- with MP Loacker
- End of legislative period (coalition broke → early elections)
Tasks

• Research Project on Social Housing Companies

• Research on Social Security Payments of the different federal states in the field of housing

• Administrative stuff (printing, scanning, emails)

• Fun stuff (press conferences, plenaries or campaign events)
I liked…
• (most of) my coworkers
• the content of my research
• summer in Vienna
• the cafeteria (Knödel)

I didn’t like…
• the ‘sensational’ aspect / the “business” (→ caught a dose of disillusion)
• certain values of the party – politics for the privileged
Conclusion

• No trade-off between academic and other goals, it’s all about personal development

• Every experience can be valuable (even if you hate it in the moment)

• Important: confidence (and skills)

• “Personalize” your goals
Don’t be shy!
Be proactive!
Be flexible!