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# Austria and Georgia: Collaboration in Education and Research

Dr. Gerald Reisinger

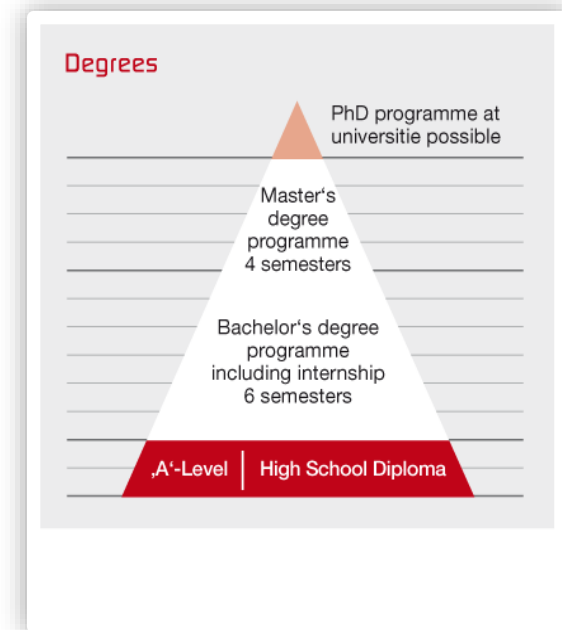


UNIVERSITY  
OF APPLIED SCIENCES  
UPPER AUSTRIA

# Austria's best university of applied sciences

- Austria's best university of applied sciences\*
- Top university rankings: Number 1 among Austrian universities of applied sciences voted by HR managers throughout Austria
- 500 Incoming/Outgoing; 800 not Austrian regular students from 60 different countries
- More than 240 partner universities all around the world
- Close co-operation with industry (more than 1,000 collaborative ventures at home and abroad)
- 60 Bachelor's & Master's degree programmes 2016/17
- About 5,600 students and 14,800 graduates in 2015
- 740 employees including 224 academic staff and 260 research associates (01/2016)
- About 2,400 alumni club members (01/2016)

(\*poll was conducted among 900 professional managers)



**60 degree programmes**

# University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria Cooperation with Georgia/Caucasus

The cooperation of the FH Upper Austria and the Caucasus University started in 2007 when programme director Hannes Hofstadler of the FH Upper Austria met president Kakha Shengelia of the Caucasus University met coincidentally sharing a taxi from the airport towards a conference venue.

Since then, many joint activities have been planned and established, and still, there is an open agenda for more cooperation.

# FH Upper Austria and Caucasus University: Selected Activities

## **General agreement and student exchange agreement (2010 - ongoing)**

Exchanging students in the field of business studies

## **Double Diploma agreement (2010 – ongoing)**

In Undergraduate Business studies. Students receive degrees from both institutions

# FH Upper Austria and Caucasus University: Selected Activities

## **February 2012 conference in Batumi, Georgia**

- Welcoming speech by President of Caucasus University, Dr. Kakha Shengelia; President of University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria, Dr. Gerald Reisinger
- Opening words by Minister Dimitri Shashkini, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia
- Key speakers: Vice Prime Minister of Georgia and State Minister for Reintegration, Ms. Eka Tkeshelashvili; Vice-Prime Minister of Georgia and State Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Mr. Giorgi Baramidze

## **Staff exchange (2013, 2014)**

- Prof. George Datukishvili, then Dean of the Caucasus University participated at FH Upper Austria International Summer Workshop
- Exchanging university marketing knowledge among colleagues from Austria and Georgia



2013:

Dr. Kakha Shengelia, President of Caucasus University, receives FH Upper Austria's ring of honour for joint initiatives and achievements with our institution.



2014 Joint university initiative:  
Dr. Gerald Reisinger and Dr. Kakha Shengelia sign an agreement to  
establish a joint international university in Georgia.

# FH Upper Austria and Caucasus University: Selected Activities

**Nov 2014**

new joint University, as non-profit (non-commercial) legal entity has been registered in the Public Registry



## Students' field trips to Georgia (2010, 2012, 2013, 2014)

Cultural experience, lectures and company visits



2014:

Students of the „Global Sales and Marketing“ master's programme visit Caucasus University.

After successfully completing a „doing business in Georgia“ seminar, Dr. Boris Lezhava, Dean of Caucasus university, awards the students with a diploma.

# FH Upper Austria and Caucasus University: Selected Activities

## **Joint research proposals (2016, 2017)**

APPEAR 6th and 7th call

## **Networking activities**

Joint presidency of the International Association of University presidents

Co-organization of the IAUP Triannual conference in Vienna 2017