



## Newsletter – Q1 2026

Highlights, reports, and upcoming events

Welcome to the first issue of 2026. Below you'll find Section highlights, a brief General Assembly summary, and updates from past and upcoming activities.

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### Message from the Section Chair

Werner Drexel, Chair, IEEE Austria Section



Dear Members of the IEEE Austria Section,

It has been quite some time since our last newsletter. During this period, the position of Public Relations Officer was vacant, and I would like to sincerely thank Thomas Strasser for stepping in to ensure that our communication continued. Since December, we are pleased to welcome Jasmina Bujaroska as our new Public Relations Officer. With her experience and strong engagement within IEEE Women in Engineering at Region 8

level, we look forward to strengthening the visibility and outreach of our Section.

As mentioned during the General Assembly, 2025 was an active and productive year. We successfully established the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) Chapter and launched the IEEE Austria Blockchain Group. In addition, our Student Branches continue to demonstrate strong engagement, which was recognized by the Student Branch Excellence Bronze Badge at the Region 8 Fall Meeting.

I would like to remind all Chapters and Affinity Groups that the reporting of technical activities for 2025 is due by the end of February. At least two technical activities must be reported in vTools to maintain active status.

We are also planning another spring walk this year, following the positive response to previous events. Further details will be announced soon. In the fall, Section elections will take place, and additional information regarding the nomination process will follow in due time.

Several officer positions remain open, and I encourage interested members to consider contributing to the Section's activities by joining the team.

Thank you to all officers, Chapter Chairs, Affinity Group leaders, Student Branch volunteers, and members who invest their time and dedication in keeping the IEEE Austria Section active and vibrant.

I look forward to another year of strong cooperation and continued development.

**Werner Drexel**

## **Section Highlights**

Key milestones and recognition from 2025

### **Launch of the New IEEE Austria Section Website**

We are pleased to announce the launch of the new IEEE Austria Section website. The homepage was designed and developed by our Educational Officer, Tochukwu Udeh, who invested significant time and effort into creating a modern and informative online presence for the Section.

The Executive Committee is very happy and impressed with the result and would like to express sincere appreciation for his commitment and initiative. We invite all members to explore the new website and stay connected with Section activities.

[Visit the new website](#)

### **New Chapter & Local Group Established**

In 2025, the IEEE Austria Section expanded its technical community with the establishment of the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) Chapter. In addition, the first local IEEE Austria Blockchain Group was launched, further strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation within the Section.

These developments reflect the dynamic growth of our technical activities and the engagement of our members.

### **Student Branch Excellence Bronze Badge**

The reactivation of the TU Wien Student Branch and the continued engagement of other Student Branches resulted in the IEEE Austria Section receiving the *Student Branch Excellence Bronze Badge* at the Region 8 Fall Meeting — a recognition of the strong student activities across our Section.

## **Austria Section General Assembly 2025**



The IEEE Austria Section General Assembly (GV 2025) took place on November 8, 2025, at the Österreichische Computer Gesellschaft in Vienna, with approximately 25 members in attendance. The meeting was opened and moderated by Section Chair Werner Drexel, who welcomed the participants and presented an overview of the Section's activities and developments.

The program featured a keynote lecture by Christoph Guger (g.tec) on "*Current and Future Applications of Brain-Computer Interfaces*", followed by reports from the Section Chair and Chapter representatives.

The financial report confirmed that the Section's finances are in good standing, and the members unanimously approved the work of the Executive Committee. Updates from IEEE Region 8 and plans for continued student engagement were also discussed.

## Past Events

**IEEE ComSoc Distinguished Lecture Tour – Lithuania & Estonia**



In October 2025, Prof. Miroslav Skoric completed an IEEE ComSoc Distinguished Lecture Tour to Vilnius (Lithuania), Tartu, and Tallinn (Estonia). The lectures were hosted by VilniusTech, the Estonian Aviation Academy, and TalTech, and attracted strong interest from students and faculty members.

A distinctive feature of the tour was the extensive hands-on component. Prof. Skoric traveled with a broad set of amateur radio and communication equipment, allowing live demonstrations and practical exploration during the lectures. Participants had the opportunity to directly engage with the technologies and gain insights into real-world applications such as GPS-based systems, environmental monitoring, emergency communication, and antenna design.

The combination of theoretical background, practical demonstrations, and vivid discussions significantly enriched the learning experience, strengthened

international cooperation, and promoted the activities of IEEE ComSoc and the IEEE Austria Section across the Baltic region.

### **9th allaroundaudio Symposium – St. Pölten**



# AllAroundAudio 2025

On November 26, 2025, the 9th edition of the trans-disciplinary symposium *allaroundaudio* took place at the University of Applied Sciences St. Pölten as part of the 7th International Conference on Creative Media Technologies.

The symposium brought together researchers, artists, and industry professionals to explore developments in audio production, perception, and innovation. This year's keynote, "*Musicality and Bioacoustics*," was delivered by Priv.-Doz. Dr. Marisa Hoeschele, Head of the Biology Cluster at the Acoustics Research Institute of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

The program covered a wide spectrum of topics, including time-frequency representations for neural networks, mobile technologies in music, analysis of ultrasonic vocalizations, and advanced approaches to music production, sound design, and composition. The event once again demonstrated the strong interdisciplinary character of the audio research community.

### **IEEE Student Branch Vienna – 2D Materials Workshop**



On June 3, 2025, the IEEE Student Branch Vienna hosted the workshop *“Engineering the Future of Electronics with 2D Materials”* at TU Wien. The event brought together students, researchers, and professionals to explore emerging developments in 2D materials and their transformative potential for electronics and quantum technologies.

Distinguished speakers from TU Wien and the University of Vienna presented on topics including single-photon emitters in strained semiconductors, quantum dots in graphene, flexible 2D CMOS integration, and challenges in atomic-scale characterization. A key highlight was the interactive discussion on bridging the gap from laboratory research to industrial application.

The workshop concluded with a networking session that fostered exchange and encouraged new collaborations among participants.

## Upcoming Events 2026

**Workshop on Physics-Informed Machine Learning – AIRoV 2026**

A workshop on “*Physics-Informed Machine Learning and Hybrid Modelling*” will take place during the Austrian Symposium on AI, Robotics and Vision (AIRoV), April 13–15, 2026, in Leoben.

The workshop aims to present and critically discuss recent advancements in physics-based machine learning and hybrid modeling approaches while fostering collaboration among researchers in this rapidly evolving field. It seeks to connect experts, identify common research interests, and build a strong scientific community.

Submission deadline: **February 28, 2026.**

[Workshop details](#)

### IEEE PES Chapter Austria – 2026 Activities

The IEEE Power & Energy Society Chapter Austria supports several high-level technical events in 2026, contributing to international exchange in energy systems research and innovation:

- **March 23–25, 2026:** Open Source Modelling and Simulation of Energy Systems (OSMSES 2026), Karlsruhe — [event website](#)
- **June 18–19, 2026:** Expert Workshop on Design and Operation of Digitalized Sector-Coupled Energy Systems — [event website](#)
- **September 9–11, 2026:** Power Systems Dynamics Submit (PoSyDyS 2026) — [event website](#)

### Student Branch Vienna – “The Power of Inspiration”

In April 2026, the IEEE Student Branch Vienna will host the workshop “*The Power of Inspiration.*” The event will feature leading figures from various fields, including ESA reserve astronaut Nicola Winter.

The workshop aims to inspire the next generation, encourage bold thinking, and create space for dialogue between students, researchers, and professionals.

### Section Announcements

- Outstanding Chapter and Affinity Group reports for 2025 are due by the end of February.
- A spring walk is being planned and will be announced in March.
- Section elections will take place in the fall; further information will follow.

- Several officer positions remain open — interested members are encouraged to contact the Executive Committee.

## Call for Contributions

We invite all Chapters, Affinity Groups, Student Branches, and members to submit reports, announcements, and highlights for the next issue of the Newsletter – Q1 2026.

Let us continue to share our achievements and strengthen the visibility of our Section.

[Submit content for the next issue](#)

IEEE Austria Section

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