

Dr. Emil Brix, born 1956 in Vienna, diplomat and historian, is the Director of the Diplomatische Akademie Wien – Vienna School of International Studies since 2017. After joining the Austrian diplomatic service in 1982, Mr Brix worked as political secretary for the parliamentary group of the Austrian People's Party. In 1986, he was appointed Head of Cabinet at the Ministry of Science and Research. From 1990 until 1995, he served as Austrian Consul General in Cracow, Poland. Subsequently, he was Director of the Austrian Cultural Institute in London, a position he held for four years. In 2002, Mr Brix was appointed Director-General of Foreign Cultural Policy at the Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria. After serving five years as the Austrian Ambassador to the UK from 2010-15, he became Austrian Ambassador to the Russian Federation in 2015. From 1995-2022 he was deputy chairman of the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe. He holds a PhD from the University of Vienna and was awarded Dr. hc. by the University of Drohobysch, Ukraine and by the University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania. He is also an alumnus of the Diplomatische Akademie Wien. Since 2014, he is a Foreign Member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, and since 2022 member of the International Advisory Board of the Institute of Advanced studies Kőszeg (iASK), Hungary. Ambassador Brix is the President of the Vienna Economic Forum. Since 2009, he is a member of the Governing Board of the Austrian Research Association, where he serves as President since 2024. He published numerous books and articles on Austrian and European history of ideas of the 19th and 20th century and on contemporary Central Europe.