

RECLAIM YOUR UNIVERSITY!

On Tuesday (20.10.2009) the academy of fine arts was squatted by students and lecturers. Their protest was triggered by a recently signed contract between the dean and the ministry of education. The students and lecturers of the academy of fine arts are speaking out against the Bachelor-/ and Master system which is about to be implemented. The main concern of the students of all universities is an amendment of university law 2009 (UG Novell 2009) that allows universities to constrain the number of enrollments henceforth. This development can be interpreted as part of the Bologna process which has the aim of harmonizing the european university structures.

Inspired by these protests, the main lecture hall of the University of Vienna was squatted on Thursday 22.10.2009. Since then, the squatted lecture hall is a place where current educational questions are discussed in open working groups and presented to the public in regular basic democratic plenary sessions. Everybody is invited to take part in these workgroups and debates, which have led to the formulation of these postulations.

The protest are not only supported by other Austrian universities but also by the civil society.

The postulations which are worked out so far are:

- Full funding of all universities!
- Democratization of the universities and fortification of the participation of students!
- Stop precarious working conditions for lecturers, scientists and workers!
- No restrictions to master degrees, No compulsory STEP* !
- Abolition of the still existing tuition fees for ALL students!
- No study restrictions, across Europe and the world!
- No restrictions to extra curricula, free choice of minor subjects!
- Abolition of preconditions to enter university courses!
- Find alternatives to this restrictive application system!
- Stop the Bologna-process which represents neoliberal trends in education policies!
- For the implementation of a female rate in the administration of the universities!

Since Thursday, 13:00 the main lecture hall of the University of Vienna is squatted.

Follow us and show your solidarity!

Workgroup press, Squat of the university of Vienna, 24.10.2009

* STEP (Studieneingangsphase) = compulsory introduction period of each bachelor degree which includes very restrictive preconditions to continue the Bachelor Studies