

The Students' Union of the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna disapproves the reintroduction of tuition fees - state government is reestablishing the unacceptable discriminatory situation/status for students from third countries.

Tuition fees cannot change the massive lack of funding for the tertiary education sector.

They make the access to a higher education for socially disadvantaged students very difficult. Third-country students have also no access to the labor market in Austria. Likewise, the Aliens Act of Austria demands a proof of covered living expenses, depending on the age from 5400 to about 9778 euros per year and often with strong limited opportunities to access the labor market. The additional financial burden due to double tuition fees, entirely deprives people from non-EU countries of an academic education.

'Instead of cashing the students, the universities have to be fully funded', calls Lisa Lnenicka from the Department of political anti-racist practice of Students' Union of the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

The Students' Union calls equal rights for mobility and education, regardless of the citizenship and free access to higher education and against the discriminatory double tuition fees for citizens of third-countries.