For an economy that works for everyone.

MOMENTUM INSTITUTE

The Think Tank of the Many

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"Now, more than ever, we need the momentum to go forward!" A donor

/ ABOUT US

The **Momentum Institute** challenges the social and economic status quo. Not only by academically sound analysis but also by contextualizing and disseminating its scientific work through public and owned media. We have been developing and distributing concrete, constructive proposals for a **more sustainable**, **inclusive, fair and equitable society** since 2019.

As a **socio-ecological policy think tank**, we prepare studies and analyses in the social and economic interest of the broad majority of the population rather than a small elitist group. We cover topics like the climate crisis, economic justice, wealth distribution and the labour market. Working evidence-based and solution-oriented, our economists draw on their scientific expertise to develop best practice examples and policy recommendations.

Translating constructive concepts from research and political jargon into clear, understandable language and spreading its contents across different media is a core task of the **Moment Magazine** – the Institute's journalistic outlet.

As an independent, innovative online medium, we depict perspectives that would otherwise be neglected. We tell our stories cross-medially through articles, graphs, videos or newsletters on platforms ranging from our website to Instagram and Tiktok. All publications, ranging from studies, analyses and policy recommendations to the journalistic output are freely accessible to all.

"Questions of economic policy are always also questions of distribution and values. Therefore, it is important that there are actors in the economic policy debate who combine substantive expertise with partisanship – partisanship for those who have less. That is why the Momentum Institute is a great enrichment for Austria."

Max Kasy, professor, department of economics, University of Oxford



/ WHY WE NEED MOMENTUM FOR CHANGE?

Political decisions affect the lives of us all. What is publicly perceived as an urgent problem or as a viable solution largely depends on who can exert more influence on politics and the media. If elites, in particular, put their interests first, the needs of the majority of the people often remain unheard. This has led to profound social divisions.

The focus of our work is the **development of progressive policies in the interest of the Many.** How can we lower rents? What needs to be done to spur the expansion of renewable energy? What will help us slow the worsening of wealth concentration? All of our data, analyses and studies underline the message that policy decisions have consequences that affect the lives of us all.

Austria lacks progressive voices. There is not a single think tank that promotes forward-thinking visions while a network of countless agenda-setting institutions exists on the right and far-right. We counter the economic mainstream with new, progressive perspectives without being dependent on party politics and corporate lobbies.

"As a counterweight to conservative or neoliberal institutions, Momentum is indispensable today."

Johanna Hofbauer, adjunct professor, department of socio-economics at the University of Economics and Business in Vienna



/ OUR CONTENT PRIORITIES

As an innovative socio-ecological think tank, one of our key areas of research is the **climate**. Our scientific analyses show how global heating and the associated climate crisis are drastically altering how we (can) live. The majority of our research projects carried out to date in this area analyzed **measures to mitigate the climate crisis**.

We, for example, have analyzed:

/ The effectiveness and distributional impact of the government's envisioned climate protection measures in the transport sector and the European Union Emissions Trading System

/ The effects of the eco-social tax reform in Austria

/ The consumer behaviour and the effects of the climate crisis on the Austrian labour market

/ The Austrian households' consumption patterns in regards to their related greenhouse gas emissions

/ The contribution to the climate crisis by poorer and wealthier individuals

Redistributing wealth and building a fairer, more **sustainable tax system** is also one of our primary focuses. The concentration of wealth - worldwide and in Austria - is an enormous problem. Tax systems benefitting "elites" and big companies contribute to further widening the gap between rich and poor.

Up until now we have - among many other things - analyzed: / The role of the media in the debate on wealth taxes in Austria

/ The distributional and climate policy impacts of government programs, tax reforms and budget reports

/ The annual lost corporate income tax revenues due to tax avoidance by Austrian companies

/ Ongoing income differences between the genders (equal pay day, international women's day, inequalities in the pension system)

Another of our central topics is the **labour market**. Here we focus on comprehensively analyzing active labour market policies and researching the reasons for socio-economic consequences of unemployment. With analyses and policy proposals, we aim at actively **contributing to the ongoing economic policy debate** in Austria.

Here we, for example, analyze:

/ Specific aspects of the labour market, such as a shortage of skilled workers or temporary layoffs

/ Working conditions, employee participation and supply chains with the help of algorithmic forecasting

/ How the differences in income change the pension outcome for the different genders

In any case and in every aspect of our research, we see it as our mission - through policy recommendations and our journalistic work - to shed light on the problems as well as the opportunities for policy and systematic changes in the interest of the Many. We - through reframing systematic problems - share strategic solutions for systematic and long-term change and offer recommendations. Our goal is to set clear outcomes.

/ MOMENTUM INSTITUTE IN FIGURES 2022









outicles in newspapers & magazines









80+ lectures δ contributions to discussions **168** website articles

220+ graphics



/ HOW WE WORK

Our team is comprised of around 25 people. We use the **tools of** economics and journalism to give a voice to the interests of the Many. Our analyses and studies are quoted in all newspapers and media outlets. We have made a record number of public appearances, including many in Austrian media flagship programs. Our infographics, diagrams and studies are used in schools and universities. Journalists, researchers and other organizations make use of them and take them as reference for further inquiries.

Often, there is a big toolbox with many tools for systematically changing the discourse, changing how we view situations and especially de facto changing the situation itself. Our evidence-based analyses, paired with connecting and engaging people with these informations and strategically communicating and advocating for a different narrative, make the Momentum Institute a unique research institute and an indispensable progressive think tank in Austria.

"We want to better explain the world around us and think the unthinkable. Only those who understand the world can also shape it. And anything created by us humans can be changed by us humans. It is our mission to shape a world that works for everyone, not only for a few."

Barbara Blaha Momentum's founder



/WHO FINANCES MOMENTUM

The Momentum Institute is an **independent think tank and therefore needs a broad base of support.** It is carried by large and small donations. Diverse financing guarantees the **independence and credibility** of the think tank and the magazine. The funds raised are used to retain the expert staff, push progressive perspectives into the discourse and to support the daily editorial work. We handle our financial resources very carefully and – as a matter of principle – neither accept donations from political parties nor donations that are conditional or endanger our independence. Our websites are and will stay free of advertising. We will never introduce our readers to a paywall because it contradicts what we believe in: **Free access to knowledge and education**.

It is crucial for us to be **completely transparent**. We want our supporters, readers and all our stakeholders to know where our financial resources come from. It is also important to us that we disclose the names of those individuals, companies and foundations that support us with more than €5.000,- per year in our annual reports.

We receive money from/through ...

/ private individuals
/ foundations
/ companies
/ the national Chamber of Labour
/ scientific cooperations
/ lectures and events
/ other operational revenues







We look forward to your questions, suggestions and ideas that can be sent to kontakt@momentum-institut.at.

Momentum Institut. Think Tank of the Many.

Märzstraße 42/1, 1150 Vienna +43 (1) 890 16 62 kontakt@momentum-institut.at www.momentum-institut.at www.moment.at



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