



IPHE Country Update Austria

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1. New Initiatives, Programs, and Policies on Hydrogen and Fuel Cells

[Hydrogen Import strategy](#)

In accordance with the guidelines set out in the [2025 government program](#), an import strategy for hydrogen is to be developed based on the hydrogen strategy for Austria. In particular, this strategy should include a set of measures for establishing important import corridors and partnerships. A mix of instruments is also being prepared to minimize liability and default risks for imports and to reduce financing costs.

[Southern Hydrogen Corridor: New declaration of intent with partner countries](#)

On January 21st 2025 Austria, Germany, Italy, Algeria and Tunisia signed a joint declaration of intent in Rome. The aim of this agreement is to drive forward the development of a hydrogen corridor linking North Africa and Europe.

[OMV and Masdar cooperation on green hydrogen](#)

The Austrian mineral oil company OMV and Masdar, a state-owned (UAE) energy company, have announced their future cooperation in the production of green hydrogen. Therefore, a non-binding declaration of intent (DOI) was signed in Vienna. The focus is on the production of green hydrogen, the production of synthetic, sustainable aviation fuels and other sustainable products. The next step is to explore possible joint projects in Austria, Europe, and the United Arab Emirates. Masdar is aiming to become the world's leading producer of green hydrogen by 2030, while OMV has set itself the goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 and is relying on green hydrogen to achieve this goal.

2. Hydrogen and Fuel Cell R&D Update

[New Test-Center at TU Graz](#)

TU Graz is strengthening its hydrogen infrastructure and opening a hydrogen electrolysis test center on the Inffeldgasse campus in Graz. The 250 m² test field will be used to test hydrogen technologies on an industrial scale. The project has been supported by a federal grant of ten million €.



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3. Demonstration, Deployments, and Workforce Developments Update

New MW PEM-Electrolyser

With a production capacity of 10 MW, OMV is commissioning the largest industrially operated electrolysis plant in Austria. The plant is located at the Schwechat refinery and will produce up to 1500 tons of green hydrogen per year. A total of around twenty-five million euros was invested in the new plant and the project was supported by the Climate and Energy Fund. The new electrolysis plant is a PEM-electrolyser, which is operated with electricity from wind, water, and solar power. The green hydrogen will then be used for the production of sustainable fuels and chemicals, such as renewable diesel.

In addition, OMV announced the construction of a 140 MW electrolyser starting in 2025. The commissioning is planned for end of 2027 and foresees a hydrogen production of up to 22,500 metric tons per year.

Table 1: Passenger cars in the fleet.

Drivetrain	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Gasoline	2,133,473	2,173,772	2,190,388	2,192,128	2,189,530	2,184,042	2,183,076
Diesel	2,776,333	2,772,854	2,762,273	2,717,475	2,651,280	2,584,985	2,510,099
Electric	20,831	29,523	44,507	76,539	110,225	155,490	200,603
LPG	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
CNG	2,365	2,602	2,753	2,654	2,564	2,342	2,172
Hydrogen (H ₂)	24	41	45	55	62	67	62
Bivalent gasoline/ethanol (E85)	5,769	5,770	5,190	4,878	4,595	4,326	3,424
Bivalent gasoline/LPG	333	330	330	331	331	334	297
Bivalent gasoline/CNG	3,177	3,143	2,978	2,801	2,616	2,437	2,224
Hybrid gasoline/electric	34,086	45,645	68,983	108,978	148,284	195,439	257,588
Hybrid diesel/electric	2,463	6,172	14,378	27,996	41,402	55,543	72,347
Total	4,978,856	5,039,854	5,091,827	5,133,836	5,150,890	5,185,006	5,231,893

In addition to passenger cars, 8 buses, 3 trucks and 2 non-road mobile machineries have been part of the Austrian fleet 2024.

OMV fuelling stations

The partly state-owned OMV is closing all its public hydrogen fuelling stations in Austria, operations in Vienna have already been discontinued. The locations in Graz, Innsbruck, Asten and Wiener Neudorf will be closed in summer 2025 because of a lack of profitability. The first hydrogen station was put into operation in Vienna 2012,



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but despite these early investment, demand for hydrogen as a fuel fell short of expectations.

4. Events and Solicitations and other

[Start of the first Austrian Hydrogen Valley](#)

On February 3rd the starting signal for Austria's first Hydrogen Valley “H₂ – Valley” was given in Graz. The valley will be an area in which climate-neutral hydrogen is produced and used locally by energy providers, industrial plants and transport. Extensive projects for the production, storage and use of green hydrogen will be implemented in the states of Styria, Upper Austria, and Carinthia in the coming years. The focus is on industrial applications and therefore the valley is called Hydrogen Industrial Inland Valley. The aim is to establish an efficient hydrogen economy by 2030 in order to meet the needs of domestic industry and drive forward decarbonisation.

5. Investments: Government and Collaborative Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Funding

[CETP Partnership](#)

The Federal Ministry for Innovation, Mobility and Infrastructure (BMIMI) enables Austrian stakeholders to participate in cooperative, transnational, funded CETP (Clean Energy Transition Partnership) R&D projects. CETP enables program managers from over thirty countries to coordinate their priorities and pool national budgets.

[Transformation of Industry](#)

The funding program for industrial transformation supports the greatest possible reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels or directly from industrial production processes. An initial call for proposals for the “transformation grant” was published in December 2024, and the submission period for projects runs from February 24, 2025, to May 28, 2025.

This first call for proposals has a total funding volume of €300 million, with a maximum funding amount per project of €200 million over a period of up to 10 years.

6. Regulations, Codes & Standards, and Safety Update

[European Hydrogen Bank: Auctions-as-a-Service](#)

Austria makes use of the “Auctions-as-a-Service”-model from the European Hydrogen Bank. The first national auction was closed in February 2025, the results are still pending. The total national budget amounts to a maximum of 820 million euros until 2026 and will cover a fixed premium per kg hydrogen, over a period of 10 years.

[Austrian hydrogen market](#)

The Austrian energy regulator E-Control has published a discussion paper containing key points for a future hydrogen market model. It is intended to serve as a basis for developing a common understanding of the necessary regulatory framework of a



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hydrogen market in Austria, in dialogue with market participants and in-line with the EU decarbonisation goals as well as the Austrian national hydrogen strategy.

[Permitting guide for hydrogen production](#)

The guide “Permits for the production of renewable hydrogen by electrolysis” from the Renewable Gases Service Center (SEG) provides comprehensive guidance on the complex legal framework for hydrogen projects in Austria. The guide highlights the legal requirements and approval procedures and addresses specific issues such as environmental compatibility, regional planning and technical standards.