



## How your city works – services of general interest in Vienna

**School information project** of the Austrian Museum for Social and Economic Affairs (ÖGWM) for pupils aged 10 to 18



### Knowing, what is being provided in Vienna

Reliable and clean public transport, high quality medical care, a wide range of personal opportunities in a modern education system, garbage disposal one can rely on, top-notch spring water from the tops of the Alps as common tap water all around the clock etc.: For Vienna's population of around two millions this might go without saying, on a global stage however it is not a given at all though that the public sector provides such high-quality services on a day-to-day basis.

### Well functioning services of general interest require a lot of effort

Anyone believing that no efforts are necessary to maintain the high-quality of services provided by the City of Vienna, couldn't be more off: Therefore an information project by the Austrian Museum for Social and Economic Affairs (ÖGWM) targets pupils in particular. The project aims at creating awareness for the efforts, that have to be taken, in order for Vienna to remain such a liveable city in the future.

### Providing knowledge as mission of the Office for Services of General Interest

The Office for Services of General Interest is very determined to raise awareness, especially among the youth, for the utmost influence that high-quality and well financed services of general interest have on the daily lives of the Viennese. For this purpose of raising awareness the Office for Services of General Interest has supported the Austrian Museum for Social and Economic Affairs' school information project since 2019 as project partner.

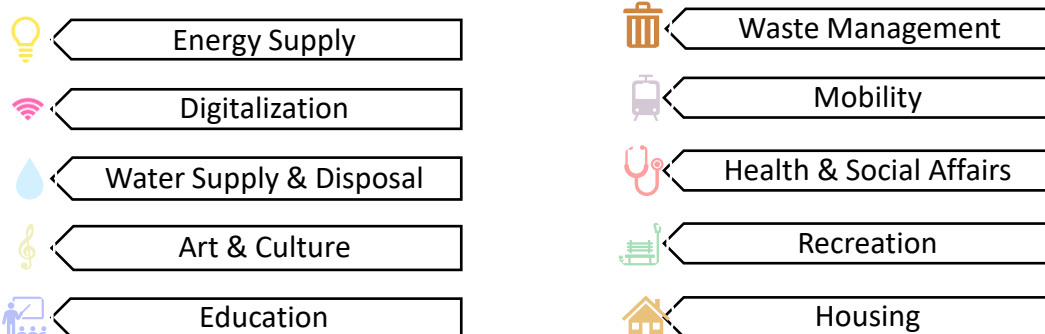
## High-quality services of general interest as solid foundation for a high quality of life

In their one- to two-hour long workshops – which can be booked free of charge by schools and are held online, in classrooms or in the museum itself – the ÖGWM-staff ensure that the pupils have their say too. Supported by a brochure and further illustrative material, the aim is to bolster awareness among the participating pupils by highlighting examples out of their day-to-day lives. On the basis of these real-life examples, pupils are getting sensitized to the major positive impact high-quality and well financed services of general interest have on the quality of their lives.



### Pupils discover, what services of general interest means

After a quiz, with the goal of introducing the pupils to the topic and elaborating why services of general interest should matter to them, hard facts about services of general interest in a Viennese context are presented: The pupils get to learn about the structure of the Viennese municipal economy, not only getting exposed to new technical terms, but also to various arguments, why public investments are of such an importance. Receiving guidance from the workshop's host, the participating pupils furthermore get to explore for themselves how much work the City of Vienna has to put into maintaining a high-quality public service system on a daily basis. To get an overview of the many fields that form services of general interest, the pupils get confronted with examples out of following fields:



Further documents and illustrative material in German on the school information project "How your city works – services of general interest in Vienna", operated on behalf of the Office for Services of General Interest can be found here:

