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## Austria continues to invest in High-Performance Computing

**By funding the EuroCC project, the federal government is taking further measures to support High-Performance Computing (HPC) for Austria's science and industry.**

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Since 2018, Austria has been participating in the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (JU). The JU initiative is developing a strong HPC ecosystem in Europe, an important part of which are the national HPC competence centres that have been established in more than 30 European countries.

The Austrian competence centre EuroCC Austria has been active since 2020, supporting companies and researchers in the areas of HPC, High-Performance Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence, helping with access to supercomputers and offering first-class HPC training.

On July 10, 2023, Martin Polaschek, Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) announced that EuroCC remains strategically important to Austria's HPC landscape.

*"With the Competence Center for High-Performance Computing, we are bundling know-how in this field and creating a central point of contact for science and industry,"*  
Polaschek said.

### EuroCC extended until 2025

During the first project phase (EuroCC-1, 2020-2022), EuroCC competence centres were established and initiated the first successful collaborations. In the second project phase (EuroCC-2, 2023-2025), the interaction with researchers, start-ups, small and medium-sized enterprises will continue in order to demonstrate their possibilities for applying HPC.

From the user side, Dr. Irene Schicker from GeoSphere Austria underlines the benefits:

*"In the context of research projects, GeoSphere Austria uses EuroHPC resources, for example the European Union's Destination Earth Initiative to develop the digital twins of our planet. With the help of HPC computing power, we can predict extreme weather events with very good spatial resolution, forecast the power grid load for the next few days, and create customised mobility forecasts for public transportation use."*

The EuroCC project, with Austrian participation, is a significant step toward achieving the European Union's goal of becoming a world leader in HPC and training the next generation of HPC experts. By providing access to state-of-the-art HPC resources and expertise, EuroCC will continue to enable researchers, scientists and industry experts to tackle complex scientific and technical challenges and drive innovation across Europe.

Dr. Claudia Blaas-Schenner (VSC Research Center, TU Wien and EuroCC Austria) sums up the importance of participating in HPC projects:

*"Federal funding in the HPC field provides all research teams in Austria with access to computing resources at the Vienna Scientific Cluster. At the European level, participation in the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking and the LEONARDO consortium provides access to petascale and pre-exascale computers as well as access to the expert network of the EuroCC competence centres."*