

## Erste Group Wins Universität Wien as Education Partner

---

[Back](#)

**03.12.2009**

**“Erste School of Banking and Finance” – the learning hub of Erste Group – has signed a cooperation agreement for employee development and training with the Faculty of *Economics* at Universität Wien (University of Vienna). By passing university courses offered as part of an internal employee programme, Erste Group employees can obtain European certificates that make them eligible for follow-up studies in economics.**

“With this partnership, we want to give our employees access to top-notch continuing education options while offering them the possibility of acquiring an internationally recognised diploma,” explains Andreas Treichl, CEO of Erste Group, at the signing of the agreement. “Continuing education and training is a crucial success factor in banking that our 52,000 employees have justifiably called on us to provide. We are now meeting this demand by ensuring a programme of the highest quality,” continues Treichl, who obtained his degree in economics from Universität Wien.

For the rector of Universität Wien, Georg Winckler, this partnership is “a milestone in the cooperation with an internationally successful company. We were able to convince one of the most successful banks in the region of Central and Eastern Europe to offer its employees continuing education and training in cooperation with Austria’s largest institute of education – Universität Wien – and to tap our resources and know-how in economics and tuition.” The Dean of the Faculty of *Economics*, Georg Pflug, sees this agreement as “the first important step in the commitment of the faculty in the ever more significant field of postgraduate education.”

Economic studies at Universität Wien have an excellent reputation and thanks to the cooperation agreement, Erste Group and its employees are given the opportunity to make use of valuable research results in the financial services sector. Andreas Müller, Head of “Erste School of Banking and Finance”, pointed out the benefits of this cooperation for Erste Group’s employees: “We give our employees the possibility to do parts of an academic study within an Erste School’s education and training programme. With each passed certificate course, they earn ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits.” This reduces the time and effort needed for postgraduate Master studies while working (e.g. for a part-time MBA programme). “Lifelong learning, also at university level, is no empty promise at Erste Group,” Andreas Müller says.

[Back](#)