

# ESS 26 Call Resilience & Crises

**Matchmaking Event**  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026

Wiener Wissenschafts-,  
Forschungs- und Technologiefonds

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# Agenda

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13:00 – 13:50 Welcome and Introduction

- ▶ Resilience and Crises Call
- ▶ Announcements (Events)
- ▶ Keynote by Thomas Starlinger

13:50 – 14:00 Intro to Matchmaking & short coffee break

14:00 – 16:00 3 Matchmakings rounds

16:00 - 16:30 Ad hoc Networking

# Resilience and Crises – Call

Main ideas of the Call – **Why** do we do this?

- Crises have become more common, uncertainties increase
- Our ability to keep up with uncertainties through resilience has not increased, often diminished
- The fabric of our social and democratic systems has grown thinner
- Post-truthism, the declining trust in democratic institutions and the rise of authoritarian mentalities are not mere aberrations that will go away by itself → they are the default settings of the next decades

→ WWTF call aims to facilitate resilience in collaborations between researchers and practitioners.

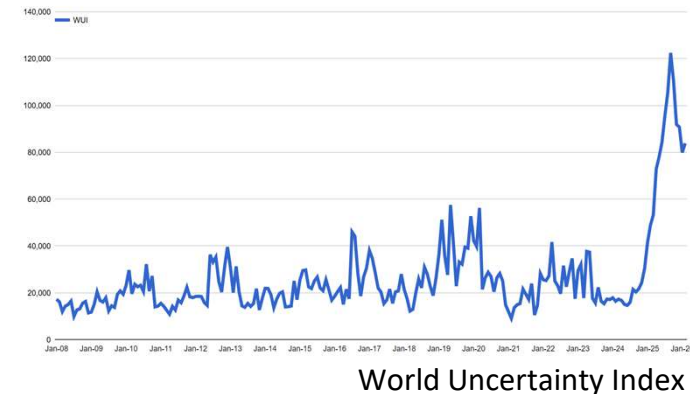
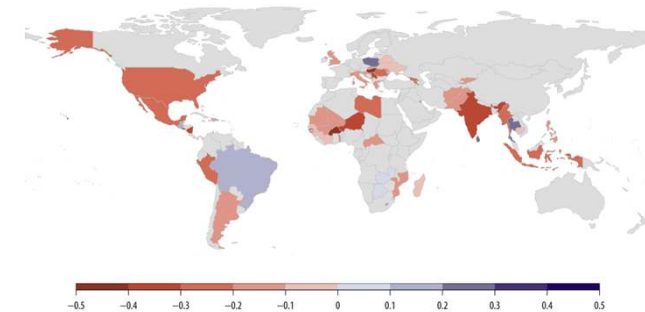


FIGURE 10. THE 62 COUNTRIES DEMOCRATIZING VS. AUTOCRATIZING, 2025



# Main aims of the call

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	Crucial for funding phase 1	Crucial for funding phase 2
Advance the <b>scientific and conceptual understanding</b> of societal resilience	✓	
Develop and <b>strengthen social science-driven methodological</b> capacities to anticipate	✓	✓
<b>Establishing networks</b> with practitioners to support strong and sustainable partnerships between researchers and societal actors	establish	collaborate
Generate <b>new scientific knowledge</b> that contributes to publications, academic theses, and the broader social sciences community		✓
Lay the <b>groundwork for actionable solutions</b> informed by research outcomes based on interdisciplinary collaboration and involvement of practitioner communities		✓



# Key requirements

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- PI&C from the **social sciences**
- Selected / narrow down the **crises** to be addressed so actionable results are possible
- **Interdisciplinarity:** Collaboration with partners from other disciplines
- **Collaboration with practitioner** communities (phase 2)
- **Anticipation exercises** of potential future crisis scenarios
- Generation of **new scientific knowledge** (instead of assembling what is already there – phase 2)

# Further Upcoming Events

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- **Call Information Session** (online) on April 24, 2026 – 10:00-12:00
  - → incl. Q&A (more technical information, submission process etc.)
- **Foresight and Anticipation Workshops**
  - **Wed, Apr 8, 2026, 13:00 - 16:00** In-person event 
  - **Thu, Apr 9, 2026, 09:00 - 13:00** Hybrid participatio  → **online spots available**

Links / Registration at

<https://wiki.wwtf.at/books/ess26-resilience-and-crises/page/ess26-resilience-crises-events-LSy>

# Keynote by Thomas Starlinger

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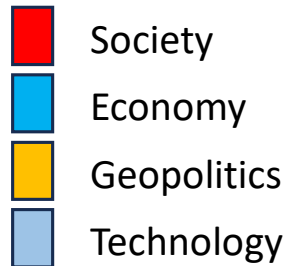
- Generalmajor (retired) of the Austrian Armed Forces
- Adjutant to President VdB
- Defence Minister (2019-2020)
- Moderator of the Future Operations Platform (Covid)
- Security Policy Advisor to the Austrian Foreign Minister
- Now: Senior Fellow at WWTF



*Keynote:* External view call topic based on the personal experience of Thomas in diverse contexts – from international security to pandemics

## Risk-Factors / Resilience ...

### Risk Categories



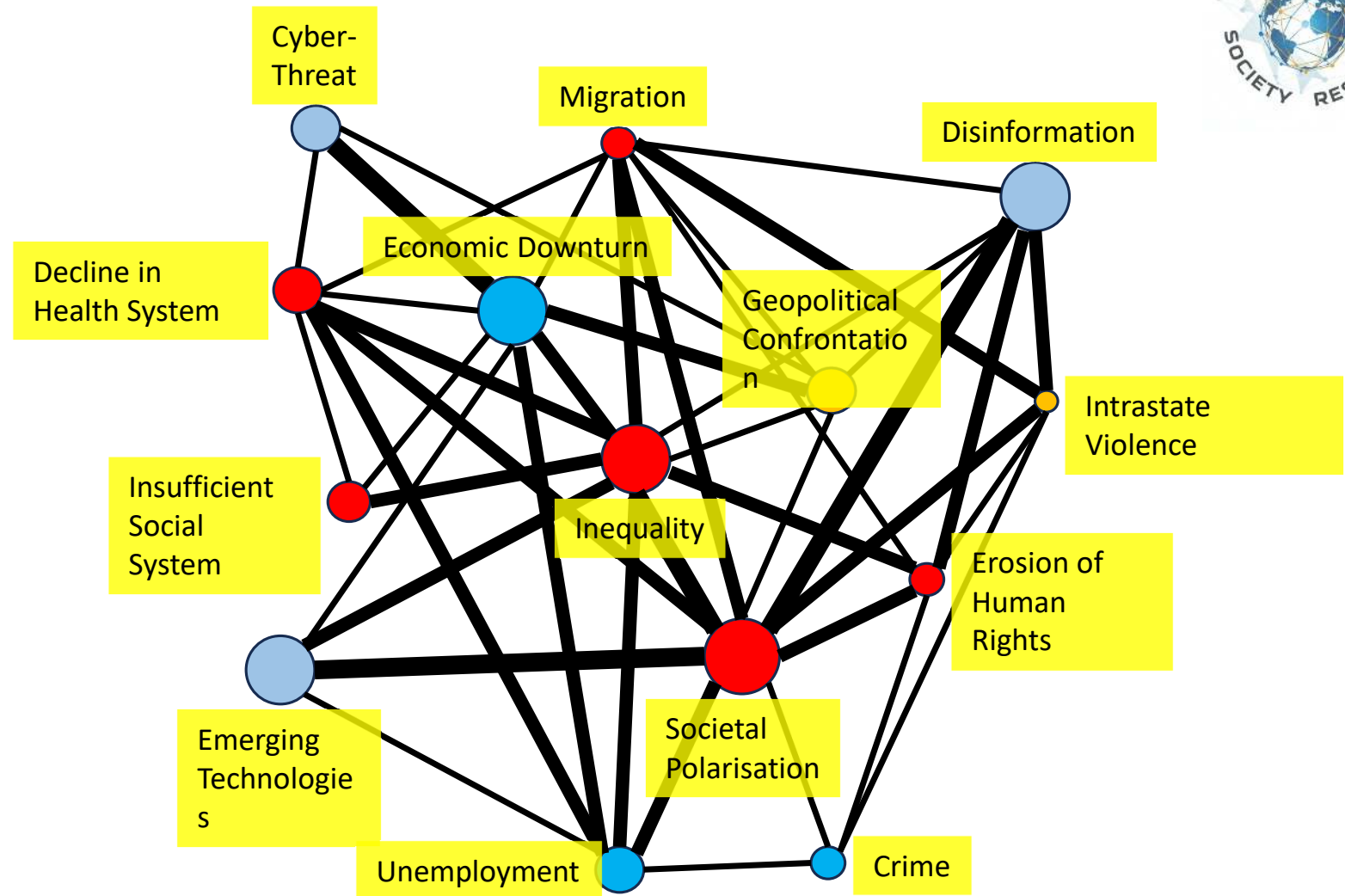
### Risk Influence / System



### Risk Influence / „Relative“



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Source: World Economic Forum / Global Risks Perception Survey 2025-2026



## Civil Readiness / "Resilience" (Network) ...

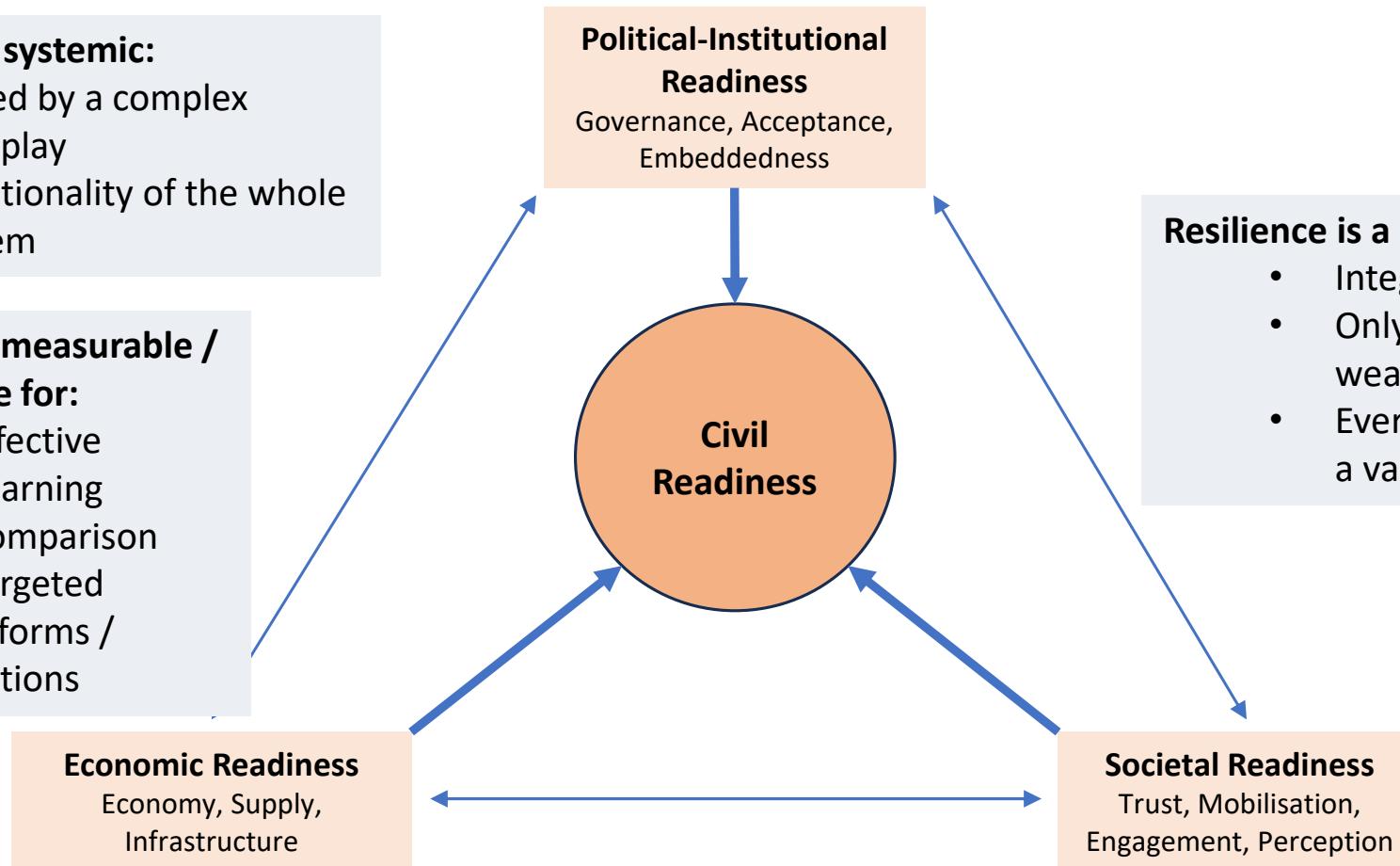


### Resilience is systemic:

- Linked by a complex interplay
- Functionality of the whole system

### Resilience is measurable / creates space for:

- Effective Learning
- Comparison
- Targeted reforms / actions



### Resilience is a collective effort:

- Integrative Challenge
- Only as strong as its weakest link
- Every aspect represents a valuable perspective

## Law / Resilience of Critical Infrastructure (EU 2022/2557) ...

# 400 - 600

Enterprises in Austria, which are evaluated as „Critical Infrastructure“ → § 11 RKE-G / Draft



Energy



Traffic



Finance



Health



Water



Digital  
Infrastructure



Public  
Administration



Space

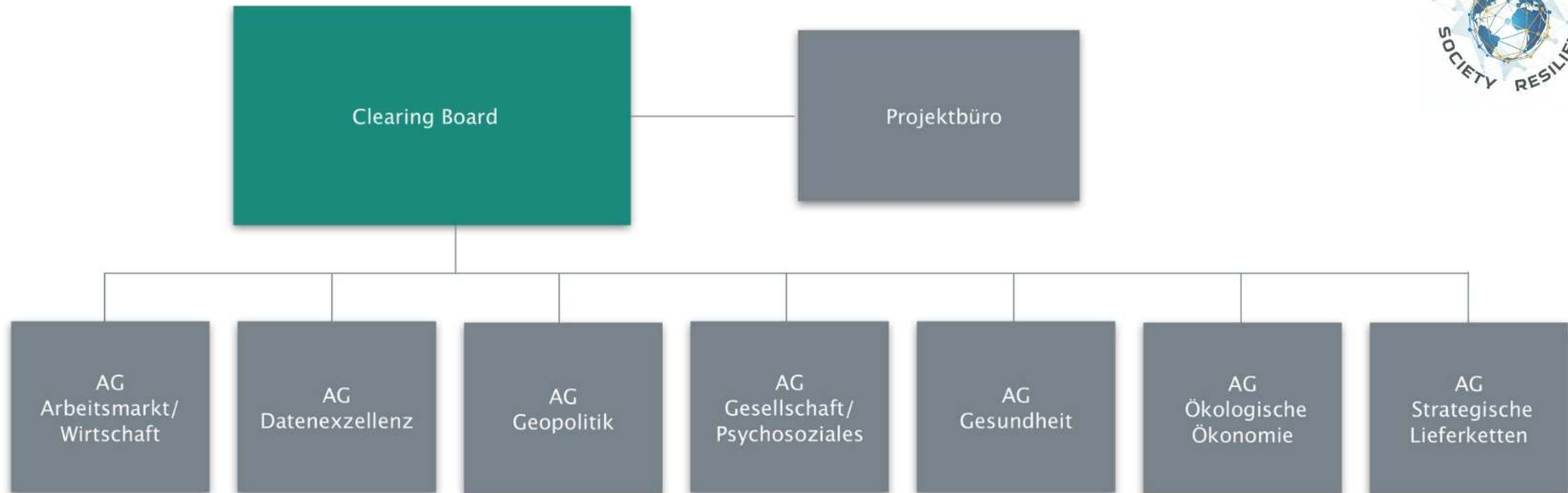


Sewage  
Water



Food

## Future Operations Platform – “Interdisciplinary Approach” ...



### Participants from:

- Universities (Medical University Graz / Innsbruck / Vienna; Technical University Graz / Vienna, University Innsbruck / Klagenfurt / Salzburg / Vienna; Veterinary University Vienna; BOKU University; University for Economy Vienna; ...)
- Organisations: CeMM; Complexity Science Hub; dwh GmbH, ECO Austria; Economica; Fraunhofer Institute, GÖG; IHS; IMP; LBG; ÖAW; Statistic Austria; WIFO; WKO; ...
- Ministries: Prime Minister Office; Defence; Economy; Education; Finance; Foreign Affairs; Health, Interior; Justice; Labour; Social Affairs; ...

## Future Operations Platform – “Interdisciplinary Approach” ...



**Datenexzellenz: Strategien für Österreich.** Autor:innen: Stefanie Schürz, Stefanie Konzett-Smoliner und Michael Stampfer, Beitragende: Arne Bathke, Thomas Burg, Jesus Crespo Cuaresma, Alexander Degelsegger-Marquez, Nikolaus Forgó, Margaretha Gansterer, Julia Girardi, Anton Graschopf, Philipp Grohs, Allan Hanbury, Robert Harm, Wolfgang Kienreich, Peter Klimek, Laura Koester, Sabine Kozler, Thomas Köstler, Sylvia Kritzing, Stefanie Linds

**Über die Kurzfristigkeit hinaus: Gemeinsam kontrollieren wir das Virus und NICHT das Virus uns!** Arne Bathke, Andrea Berghold, Andreas Bergthaler, Julius Brennecke, Thomas Cypionka, Ulrich Elling, Gerry Foitik, Margaretha Gansterer, Gerald Gartlehner, Barbara Juen, Peter Klimek, Herwig Kollaritsch, Christian Korunka, Sylvia Kritzing, Chris Claus

**„Zurück in die Normalität - mit der Impfung schütze ich mich und andere, mit zusätzlichen PCR-Tests schaffen wir Sicherheit für uns alle!“** Scho

Wagr A. Bathke (Uni Salzburg), A. Bergthaler (CeMM/ÖAW), J. Brennecke (Vienna BioCenter, IMBA/ÖAW), A. Constantin (Uni Wien), T. Cypionka (IHS), M. Eichmair (Uni Wien), U. Elling (ÖAW, IMBA), G. Foitik (Rotes Kreuz), M. Gansterer (Uni Klagenfurt), N. Forgó (Uni Wien), B. Juen (Uni Innsbruck), S. Knapp (Med Uni Wien), C. Korunka (Uni Wien), P. Klimek (Med Uni Wien), H. Kollaritsch (Med Uni Wien), F. Krammer (Mount Sinai, New York City), C. Krattenthaler (Uni Wien), D. von Laer (Med Uni Innsbruck), C. Lamm (Uni Wien), S. Kritzing (Uni Wien), T. Müller (Med Uni Innsbruck), H. Ostermann (GÖG), P. Plener (Med Uni Wien), N. Popper (TU-Wien), B. Prainsack (Uni Wien), J. Partheymüller (Uni Wien) S. Rabady (KLPU Krems), A. Schmidt (GÖG), B. Schober (Uni Wien), C. A. Siebenhofer-Kroitzsch (Med Uni Graz), C. Spiel (Uni Wien), T. Stamm (Med Uni Wien), S. Strohmaier (Med Uni Wien), H. Stummer (UMIT-Tirol), W. Trutschnig (Uni Salzburg), M. Wagner (Uni Wien), C. Wenisch (Klinik Favoriten), G. Zimmermann (PMU Salzburg), J. Zuber (Vienna BioCenter, IMP)

November 2021. [Download](#)

# Q & A

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