Austrian Platform for Single Parents "ÖPA"

Understands itself as an interest group concerning single parents, separated parents, patchwork families and their children.



Our concern

 All forms of families can participate "fully" in social life!

 To give single parents, separated parents, patchwork families and their children a full voice, to point out disadvantages and to encourage their elimination.



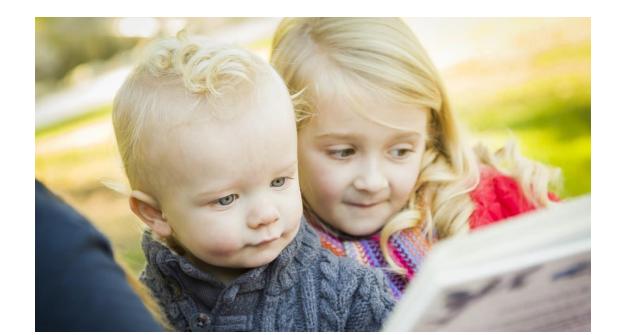
We are an association

- Women's- and family organizations from church and society
- Family and children's/youth organizations in the federal provinces of Austria
- Child, youth and family organizations



What do our member organizations do?

- Couselling and help in cases of partnership or family problems
- support during separation and divorce
- difficult situation a personal crisis
- Caring and education





"JUNO" - separate parenting - strong together!

- "In subsidized housing in Vienna, we develop and support single-parent housing projects.
- We work together with non-profit property developers.
- We plan and arrange compact, low-cost flats for single parents in Vienna."



Family Centre for Single Parents with "GIGAMPFA":

It supports and strengthens the children in this turbulent life situation and relieves the father and mother. The focus is on children's feelings: anger,

sadness, fear, withdrawal, aggressiveness ...





FAmOs "Rainbow-families"

• FAmOs

- cares for the interests of rainbow families and LGBTIQ people
- exchange of information and experience
- counselling and networking for rainbow families and those who want to become one
- enforcement of equal rights and duties for us and our children



How to reach political goals?





The concerns of families and Austrian Policy

The legislative authorities are the

- Ministry of Family Affairs,
- Ministry of Social Affairs,
- the Minister for Women's Affairs
- and the Ministry of Justice.



Well-intentioned is not always good for everyone or "family is not family"

- A current example: the "climate bonus":
- Each person in Austria for at least six months in 2022 will receive the climate bonus:
- Adults € 500
- Children € 250

What does it mean for families?



Two families in neighbouring flats in the same house:

- Family A: Father, mother, one child 500 + 500 + 250 gets € 1250
- Family B: one single parent two children
 - 500 + 250 + 250 gets € 1000
 What does that this mean?
 - This is a clear discrimination against single people, especially against single parents.



Challenges for single parents

- Reconciliation of family and work,
- including sufficient quality childcare
- working hours childcare
- the location of working hours, appropriate remuneration so that an income is sufficient



More challenges

Raising housing and energy costs make it increasingly difficult for single parents to find suitable housing

Finding a flexible part-time job that is more compatible with childcare



What do single parents need?

- Finding a flexible part-time job that is more compatible with childcare responsibilities.
- Reconciliation of family and work, which includes, for example, sufficient quality childcare, the location of working hours, appropriate remuneration so that an income is sufficient.



The Risk of poverty and social exclusion of single-parent households in Austria - a scientific study

"On poverty and social exclusion during the pandemic"



The risk of poverty in single-parent households has been confirmed to be much higher than in other types of families already over the last 10 years.

Whether or not a private household is at risk of poverty depends on its size and composition as well as on the level of its household income. "



risk-of-poverty or at-risk-of-exclusion

- The at-risk-of-poverty or at-risk-of-exclusion rate for children under 25 to be maintained is 48% in single-parent households,
- the at-risk-of-poverty rate is 38%.
- For children under 14, the rate rises to 51%,
- the at-risk-of-poverty rate is 39%.



"On poverty and social exclusion during the pandemic"

Naturally, the situation is even more difficult concerning single parents.

For very many single parents the price increases are already a threat to their existence



How much does a child cost?

- The monthly child costs for two-adult households amount to € 395 per month on average in 2021 for a child up to 14 years, € 659 for a child over 14 years of age.
- Even in single-adult households, older children cause significantly higher costs than younger children.
- In 2021, child costs for a child up to 14 years of age amount on average to € 727 per month, for a child over 14 to € 1,384.



Another study on child costs a survey on maintenance

- Only 73% of the underage children of single parents are entitled to cash maintenance, and of these
- In the other parent
 In the other parent
- ♦ On average, children receive about 373 € per month
- ✤ 15% receive less than 200 €



What is to do?

- "In the poor social welfare now children become even poorer than they already are, with an unemployment benefit that is too low the social situation of affected children worsens.
- But with a good school the chances increase, with affordable housing children can breathe a sigh of relief, with sufficient therapeutic care sick children can regain courage", says the Poverty Conference Network.



How to increase in social transfer payments of families at risk of poverty?

"We can massively reduce child poverty

 if we want to politically", the Poverty
 Conference Network welcomes the
 launch of the European "Child
 Guarantee" in Austria!



Opportunities exist

Let us work together in the field of the

EUROPEAN CHILD GUARANTEE!

