

Country Legislation Review – Austria

Country: Austria

1 Introduction

1.1 Institutions and links

| Institution | Link |
|---|---|
| Labour Inspection (Arbeitsinspektion) | http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/AI/default.htm |
| AUVA (Allgemeine Unfallversicherungsanstalt) - professional insurance association | www.auva.at |
| S&H legislation database: | www.ris.bka.gv.at |

Laws in Austria are usually referred to as an article number plus the law abbreviation with caps and small caps.

For example: “§6 ASchG” means “Article 6 of ArbeitnehmerInnenschutzgesetz”

Many other terms are also shortened for convenience as German language can have extensive words (SVP for Sicherheitsvertrauenspersonen (employee safety representatives), SiFa for Sicherheitsfachkraft (safety engineer), AM for Arbeitsmediziner which means occupational physicians).

Normally H&S law is country wide. State/regions sometimes define specific laws (for e.g. building standards).

In Germany many regulations are set directly by the worker's Health insurance associations (Berufsgenossenschaft, BG), which is not the case in Austria.

In Austria there is a single insurance association (AUVA) which all employers have to use. The AUVA cannot set any rules.

The labour inspection (AI) is part of the authorities. Where requirements of laws or regulations are not clear, the AI publishes decrees (Erlässe), which are legally binding.

Hierarchy of laws: Gesetze (laws), Verordnungen (regulations), Erlässe (decrees)

1.2 Health & Safety Law references

The main pieces of Health & Safety Law:

| Full name | Abbreviation | Content |
|--|--------------|---|
| Allgemeine Arbeitnehmerschutz-VO BGBI 218/1983 | AAV | detailed requirements: storage, (§§ 65-66), PPE (§§ 66-73)SFK, SVP, AM, risk assessment, training |
| ArbeitnehmerInnenschutzgesetz BGBI 450/1994 | ASchG | General requirements; SFK, SVP, AM, risk assessment, training |
| Arbeitnehmerschutz vor Lärm u. Vibrationen BGBI II 22/2006 | VOLV | Noise and vibrations protection |
| Arbeitskräfteüberlassungsgesetz - AÜG | AÜG | Law about temporary workers |

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| Full name | Abbreviation | Content |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Arbeitsmedizinische Ausbildung BGBI 489/1995 | BGBI 489/1995 | Competencies and education for occupational physicians |
| Arbeitsmittelverordnung - AM-VO BGBI II 164/2000 | AM-VO | Working equipment and inspections |
| Arbeitsruhegesetz BGBI 144/1983, Arbeitsruhegesetz-VO BGBI 149/1984, Arbeitszeitgesetz BGBI 461/1969 (AZG) | | Working hours and breaks |
| Arbeitsstättenverordnung - AStV BGBI II 368/1998 | ASt-VO | Safety for workplaces (amount of space, light, air condition, fire prevention, ...) |
| Bauarbeitenkoordinationsgesetz - BauKG BGBI I 37/1999 | BauKG | Coordination of major or risky construction works |
| Behinderteneinstellungsgesetz (BEinstG) | BEinstG | Employment of disabled people |
| Beschäftigungsverbote und -beschränkungen für Jugendl. KJBG-VO BGBI II 436/1998 | KJBG-VO | Regulation about the protection of workers under the age of 18 years (trainees, apprentices) |
| Bildschirmarbeitsverordnung - BS-V BGBI. II 124/1998 | BS-V | safety for workers at display screens |
| Bundesgesetz über die Arbeitsinspektion (Arbeitsinspektionsgesetz 1993 – ArbIG) | ArbIGArbeitsinspektionsgesetz | Federal Labour Inspection Act, 1993 |
| Bundesgesetz vom 14. Dezember 1973 betreffend die Arbeitsverfassung (Arbeitsverfassungsgesetz - ArbVG) | ArbVG | Works councils |
| Bundesgesetz vom 9. September 1955 über die Allgemeine Sozialversicherung (Allgemeines Sozialversicherungsgesetz - ASVG. | ASVG | State social insurance |
| Chemikalien-VerbotsVO 2003 - ChemVerbotsV 2003 BGBI II 477/2003 | ChemVerbotsV | Prohibition of special hazardous substances including asbestos |

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|--|---------------|--|
| DruckgaspackungslagerungsVO 2002 - GPLV 2002 BGBI II 489/2002 | DGPLV | Safe storage of aerosol cans |
| Fachausbildung der Sicherheitsfachkräfte (VO) BGBI 277/1995 | BGBI 277/1995 | Competencies and education for safety engineers |
| GrenzwerteVO 2007 - GKV 2007 BGBI II 253/2001 | GKV | Limits for exposure to hazardous substances |
| Kälteanlagen-VO BGBI 305/1969 | BGBI 305/1969 | Inspections of air conditioning |
| Kennzeichnungsverordnung - KennV BGBI II 101/1997 | KennV | Safety and fire signs at the workplace |
| Kinder- und Jugendlichen-Beschäftigungsgesetz 1987 - KJBG BGBI 599/1987 | KJBG | Law about the protection of workers under the age of 18 years (trainees) |
| Mutterschutzgesetz | MuSchG | Health protection for expecting and breastfeeding women and young mothers |
| Produktsicherheitsgesetz 2004 - PSG 2004 BGBI I 16/2005 | PSG | Product liability (including for importers) |
| Sicherheits- und Gesundheitsschutzdokumente BGBI 478/1996 | BGBI 478/1996 | Regulation about risk assessment documentation |
| Sicherheitsvertrauenspersonen-VO BGBI 172/1996 | BGBI 172/1996 | Regulation for employee safety representatives |
| Verordnung optische Strahlung - VOPST BGBI II 221/2010 | VOPST | Protection from optical radiation (e.g. special kinds of neon lamps) |
| Verordnung über die Gesundheitsüberwachung am Arbeitsplatz 2008 (VGÜ 2008) BGBI II 27/1997 | VGÜ | [Regulation No. 1997/27 of the Federal Minister for Labour and Social Affairs concerning health surveillance at the workplace, 1997, CIS 98-375] |
| VO über brennbare Flüssigkeiten BGBI 240/1991 | VbF | Storage and handling of flammable liquids |
| VO über den Schutz d. Arbeitnehmer/innen vor Gefahren durch den elektrischen Strom BGBI II 33/2012 | ESV 2012 | Regulation for electric installations (inspections) |