

## **EAEVE Interim Report**

26.11.2024

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## 1. Name and location

Vetmeduni  
Veterinärplatz 1, 1210 Vienna  
Austria

## 2. Name and details of the current VEE head

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## 3. Date of completion of the Interim Report

November 26, 2024

## 4. Date of the previous visitation

November 11-15, 2019

## 5. Any major changes which may affect the compliance with the ESEVT Standards since the previous SER/IR (e.g. new national regulations, new foreign language track, more admitted students, less funding, lower caseload)

Because it has only been two years since the last self-evaluation report was submitted to the EAEVE, many of the initiatives listed in the first self-evaluation report are still ongoing.

The major developments in the last two years were:

- New development plan
- New performance agreement with the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) for the years 2025-2027 (signing in December 2024)
- New organisation plan and new department organisation
- Establishment of a new Centre for System Transformation and Sustainability in Veterinary Medicine and an inter-university cross sectional centre (Ignaz Semmelweis Institute)
- Three new professorships (One Health Systems Science, Infectiology, System genetic)
- Establishment of a student-run clinical training service in the small animal outpatient clinic (LiKE Ambulanz)

Accordingly, this report will focus primarily on new developments. It should be emphasised that Vetmeduni has been undergoing a comprehensive change process (vetmeduni+) since the beginning of 2023. The main focus of the last two years has therefore been on successfully managing this change process. An increase in efficiency and further development in many other operational areas is expected due to numerous changes in organization. Details of the

key developments can be found in the annex to the report.

## **6. Major problems encountered by the VEE (whether resolved or not)**

The **campus** of Vetmeduni is approaching a point at which it is no longer fit for purpose in the long run. To preserve the existing infrastructure and buildings, and to allow for further development (for example, in line with new biosecurity regulations), it is not feasible for the university to address these issues in isolation. It requires substantial assistance from the federal government. The rectorate initiated preliminary discussions with the Federal Property Company (BIG) and the BMBWF regarding the future of the Vetmeduni campus and its buildings. This process is still underway. In the new performance agreement of 2025-27, an addition regarding “Modernisation of teaching and research infrastructure” has been made. Moreover, Vetmeduni has been able to assure several modernisation projects within the “Bauleitplan Ost”<sup>1</sup>. Projects listed in this “Bauleitplan” do not represent a financial burden for the university, instead are funded with additional federal funds. Also the outcomes of the vetmeduni+ project will be integrated into the campus infrastructure re-development.

The 2022-2024 performance agreement has posed significant financial challenges to Vetmeduni, largely due to global inflationary pressures, coupled with rising energy and personnel costs. In response, the university (together with all Austrian universities) has engaged in negotiations with the BMBWF to secure an additional budgetary allocation (Teuerungsausgleich), ensuring the continued operations of the institution.

The upcoming change in the Rectorate shortly before the upcoming EAEVE accreditation poses challenges for Vetmeduni as none of the current members of the Rectorate will serve another term. The Vetmeduni is therefore endeavouring to incorporate the extensive knowledge base of the current Rectorate into the EAEVE preparations in the best possible way.

## **7. Progress in the correction of minor deficiencies**

As already outlined in the Interim Report of 2022, 15 out of 16 recommendations of the EAEVE Expert Commission were included in thematic and strategic discussions and implemented according to internal and national framework conditions. Only the recommendation regarding the option for a professional doctorate can't be further assessed due to incompatibility with the Austrian legislative framework.

## **8. Plans for the near future**

In spring 2025, Vetmeduni a new rectorate will control of the institution's operations. The university council appointed Professor Matthias Gauly (currently: University of Bozen) as new rector. The appointments of the Vice-Rectorates are yet to be determined.

## **9. Expected date of the next visitation**

March 23-27, 2026

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.bmbwf.gv.at/dam/jcr:938743eb-9118-49d6-9d62-1940c0b66e1c/blp\\_ost\\_2024.pdf](https://www.bmbwf.gv.at/dam/jcr:938743eb-9118-49d6-9d62-1940c0b66e1c/blp_ost_2024.pdf)