

**Ms. Petra Draxl**

Managing Director of the Public Employment Service Vienna, Austria

Petra Draxl, born in 1960 in Styria, Austria, studied Pedagogy/Psychology/Sociology and Psychology/Neurology at the Karl Franzens University in Graz. After working at the Graz Children's Hospital and teaching at the University, she took over the management of the Insel youth employment project in Graz.

This was the beginning of her many years of involvement with labour market and employment policy. Among other things, she gained experience as an independent consultant as well as in the ÖSB management consultancy, at the Austrian Labour Market Service and during a study visit to the EU Commission in Brussels. As an independent project manager and consultant, she worked in Austria, Switzerland, Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Bulgaria and Serbia. In 1999 she took over the management of ÖSB Unternehmensberatung.

Before her appointment as Managing Director of the Public Employment Service Vienna (1 July 2012), she was Head of Department for the European Social Fund, the European Globalisation Fund and the OECD Leed Programme at the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection.