



# Annual Report Club Alpbach London

Official Member of the Forum Alpbach Network (FAN)  
October 2018 – October 2019



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# Introduction to Club Alpbach London

Club Alpbach London is an independent club in the UK and an associate member of the European Forum Alpbach Network. It exists to create a space for a better Europe.

The European Forum Alpbach is an annual conference in the Austrian Alps that has attracted world leading thinkers and practitioners since 1945. Over time, it has grown into a renowned international platform of debate with over 4000 participants. The Forum Alpbach Network was established to promote the European Forum Alpbach in different countries and to bring young people to the conference through scholarships. It consists of over 30 clubs.

Club Alpbach London is the only club in the UK. It was founded in 2013 and has been active since 2015. Its purpose is to create a space for a better Europe. It does this by providing scholarships to outstanding young people living in the UK to attend the European Forum Alpbach, and by building a presence in the UK through speaker and networking events.

Club Alpbach London's board for 2018/19 was elected in October 2018. Josef Huber and Philipp Harnik were elected as Co-Presidents. They were joined by Christoph Herler (Treasurer), Lukas Fiala and Isabella Hilber (Scholarships), Ramya Bommareddy (Events) and Alessandro Vano (Marketing).

Club Alpbach London's next AGM will take place on Thursday, 17th of October 2019 at which the full board will resign and a new board will get elected by the club's members.

## Our Impact

Club Alpbach London is looking back on a successful year with many new (committee-) members and interesting events in both London and Alpbach. Besides having, again, successfully secured a number of scholarships for our CAL delegation, we are also delighted to see that our efforts to increase diversity among delegates have paid off.

An array of different events, including socials for members and friends, fireside chats in pubs, or speaker events at the Austrian Embassy in collaboration with the UCL History of Art Society were organised in London. In doing so, the CAL board has continued to grow its network of engaged people both in London and beyond and actively spread the 'Spirit of Alpbach' in the UK.

With the help of our generous sponsors, the Club was able to select a delegation of 8 scholarship holders to attend the European Forum Alpbach 2019. We are proud to say that we were able to provide additional financial support to 5 of our scholars. Assisting our scholarship holders financially has been a particular focus this year, as we are continuously working on increasing outreach and diversity of the Club. We aim to continue and expand our financial support programmes in the upcoming years. The Club also continued to offer a membership scheme for people who are passionate about the Club's purpose of creating a space for a better Europe here in the UK and beyond.



*During my time in Alpbach this year, I was able to forge an incredible network of driven and passionate like-minded students, as well as engage with leading academics in inspiring and stimulating seminars and talks. This, coupled with the beautiful backdrop of the Austrian Alps, made this August an unforgettable experience.*

**Tamara, CAL Scholar 2019**

## Congratulations to...

1. **Dsouza Sherin (53)**
2. **Porenta Katharina (50)**
3. **Korotchenko Darina (48)**



CAL Scholar Katharina was successful at the Speakers' Night



CAL Scholar Max in conversation with nobel laureate Josef Stiglitz

*What a whirlwind! I didn't think that two weeks of sharing a room with three people could ever pass this fast! At the same time though, it also feels like much more than two weeks, simply because of the amount of experiences and knowledge I was able to accumulate.*

**Katharina, CAL Scholar 2019**

# Our Achievements

## Scholarships to the EFA 2019

As an active member of the European Forum Alpbach Network, CAL provides scholarships to students and young professionals to attend the European Forum Alpbach in Austria. All scholarships cover the full participation fee with possible additional financial assistance contributing to accommodation and board, ensuring diversity in terms of socio-economic background.

This year's scholarship programme received 28 applications and successfully funded **8 pioneer scholarships**, 5 of which received additional financial assistance contributing to board and accommodation costs.

The CAL delegation consisted of 6 female and 2 male Scholarship Holders, as well as 2 Returners and 5 board members who had participated in the EFA before.

The pool of applicants was diverse, including students from the University of Oxford, the University College London, the London School of Economics, the University of Leeds, the University of Manchester, the School of Oriental and African Studies, the University of Cambridge and King's College London.

## Events

Club Alpbach London has hosted a variety of formal and informal events in London and Alpbach throughout the year, including:

- Arts-in-Residence - ‘Digital Society, Open Society?’: CAL in collaboration with the Austrian Cultural Forum and UCL History of Art Society, welcoming speech by Dr Michael Zimmermann (Austrian Ambassador to the United Kingdom) with Flora Ogilvy, Anna Skladmann, Gustav Haglid and Angelo Martelli.
- Fireside Chat with Michael Strasser (Austrian Extreme Athlete for triathlon and long-distance cycling) on life achievements and high performance.
- Fireside Chat with Leigh Turner CMG (Her Majesty’s Ambassador to the Republic of Austria and UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna) on the relations of the UK and the EU during times of Brexit (Alpbach, August 2019).
- Various social and networking events, including regular pub meetups in London, dinners and organised drinks with other Clubs in Alpbach, a hike and Gstanzl-singing with Club OÖ and Club Salzburg in Alpbach, sunrise hikes and regular visits to Jakober.
- CAL Homecoming Social (October 2019) as last gathering of the old board and delegation and to prepare for the upcoming year.



Fireside chat with extreme cyclist Michael Strasser





Fireside chat with Leigh Turner, UK Ambassador to Austria



## CAL Sponsors 2019

Club Alpbach London is grateful for the continued financial support from its main sponsors, namely Dr. Helmut Schuster, AVL UK, Erste Group Bank AG and Energie Steiermark AG. The donations allowed CAL to preserve a solid financial basis for the number of scholarships it could award for attendance of the European Forum Alpbach 2019.

Whilst the club has awarded eight scholarships this year, CAL managed to provide financial assistance of more than € 1,800,- to five scholarship holders and thus completely covered the participation costs of two participants. This allowed the Club to increase the diversity of its scholarship holders by including young adults from disadvantaged backgrounds, whilst ensuring to send as many people from the UK as possible to the Forum.

This contributed to diversifying the profile of scholars who were given the opportunity to attend the European Forum Alpbach 2019, ultimately enhancing the club's aim of providing a place for debate and cultural exchange by including a wider range of opinions from a greater variety of backgrounds.

Furthermore, through the support of the Austrian Ambassador to the United Kingdom, HE Dr. Michael Zimmermann and his kind offer to use the Ambassador's Residence for our events throughout the year, the Austrian Embassy also belongs to CAL's long-term supporters. We are very grateful to Dr. Zimmermann for his support over the last year.



*I attended a morning seminar on religion and politics, and I think I learned more about religion in the course of this weeklong seminar than in all my time in high school...*

*Seriously, where else could one speak with Ban Ki-moon about the great cooperation with Austria right before listening to Chad Frischmann deliver a little lecture about the concept of "drawdown".*

*And the best part of it all: it's all completely informal. Just really relaxed, effortless networking and friendly exchange. No usual show off, no embarrassing smearing of experts ... I can't wait until the next time!*

**Alex, CAL Scholar 2019**



*This year's discussions and fireside chats were of outstanding quality, marked by a diverse set of speakers, active participant engagement, and critical Q&A sessions, CAL Board Member Phil*





# Financial Report Overview

Incoming				Outgoing					
	EUR	GBP			EUR	GBP			
Remaining from Financial Year 2017/18	€79.28	£1,356.24		Sonnenhof Accommodation	€7,616.00	£0.00			
Sponsoring	€2,500.00	£2,000.00		Tourist Tax Alpbach	€378.00	£0.00			
Membership Fees	€0.00	£135.00		Cleaning Fee Sonnenhof	€170.00	£0.00			
Scholarship Holders Accommodation	€1,990.46	£253.92		Pioneer Scholarships	€2,800.00	£0.00			
Board Members Accommodation	€1,872.00	£511.00		Returner Scholarships	€300.00	£0.00			
Guests Accommodation	€1,038.78	£0.00		Board Scholarships	€450.00	£0.00			
Returners Fees	€434.63	£0.00		Travel Assistance	€100.00	£0.00			
Other (GBP to EUR Conversion)	€4,711.11	£0.00		Miscellaneous Expenses	€26.09	£36.01			
				Other (GBP to EUR Conversion)	€0.00	£4,220.71			
								<b>Conversion Rates</b>	<b>16.10.19</b>
Total	€12,626.26	£4,256.16		Total	€11,840.09	£4,256.72		<b>EUR</b>	<b>GBP</b>
								1 EUR	0.86435 GBP
				<b>Total Balance</b>	€786.17	-£0.56		1.15694 EUR	1 GBP
					<b>€785.52</b>				

# Contact

For any enquiries, please contact Club Alpbach London

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